



(Register-Guard photo, Wiltshire eng.)

THESE TWO DISPLAYS, MADE BY THE St. Mary's School youngsters shown here, will be entered along with others made by St. Mary's students in the second annual Northwest Science Exposition at Portland this week. Joan Sealfield, 12, shows her model, which demonstrates the phases of the moon. Edward Duffy, 10, holds models of prehistoric animals. Last year, the school took four first places in the statewide competition. The contest is sponsored by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry and is held at Portland State Extension Center.

DOUGLAS STARTS TREK, 184 MILES TO CAPITAL

CUMBERLAND, Md. (AP)—Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas and a party he described as "a little bigger than the Lewis and Clark expedition" set out from here early today on a 184-mile hike to Washington, D.C.

They expect to cover the distance in about eight days. Forty-five persons made up the party which struck out from Cumberland at 7 a.m.

The "expedition" will wind along the old Chesapeake & Ohio Canal from here to Washington. It resulted from a challenge by Douglas to editorial writers Merlo Pusey and Robert Estabrook of the Washington Post and Times-Herald.

They had written editorials favoring a federal parkway along the unused, government-owned canal. Douglas said this would mar its natural beauties and challenged them to walk it with him and see for themselves. They took him up, and naturalists and others quickly joined in.

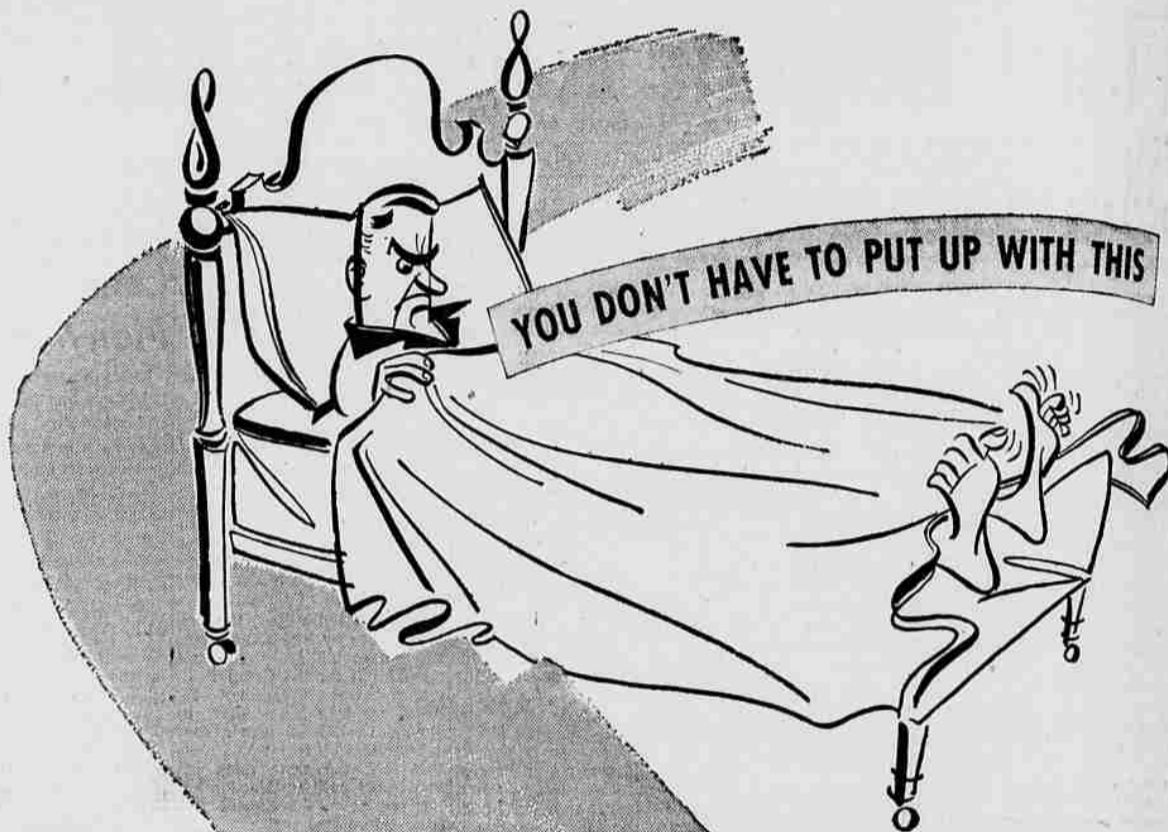
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TEMPEST IN AN ATOM PLANT

Missing Hanford Data Reported Unimportant

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Register-Guard Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Chairman Sterling Cole (R-NY) of the congressional committee on atomic energy believes the sensational headlines generated by a press conference held by Rep. Thomas M. Pelly (R-Wash) concerning missing documents at Hanford, were "not in the best interest of the public."

Cole gave this opinion in writing Pelly this week to say his committee had found no breach of security at Hanford nor even any "poor housekeeping," although he said a small number of papers—some misfiled, some destroyed without record—have been missing since 1943. None were top secret, however, nor did they provide information about atomic material specifications, Cole explained.

While complimenting Pelly for turning his report of missing papers over to the atomic energy committee, Cole indicated he thought it could have been done without the drama of Pelly's having called in reporters to tell them about it. What angered Cole was a headline in the Columbia Basin News of Pasco, Wash., which declared that "top secret papers" had been "stolen" from Hanford. Other newspapers gave their readers similar versions.

QUICK ATTENTION

Pelly had said in his press conference that he assumed some missing documents were top secret. He said he understood a substantial volume of documents was involved. He lent authority to his report by saying without qualification that it had been confirmed to him verbally by officials of the Atomic Energy Commission, and that the congressional

committee had promised to investigate the whole matter.

Why did Pelly broadcast this sensational announcement to the press? He explained that on Feb. 25 an AEC official personally confirmed his report of missing documents, promising AEC would detail in writing what action it was taking.

Pelly waited two weeks, but got no word. Then he said he learned that a letter had been drafted but rejected by AEC Chairman Lewis Strauss who ordered it rewritten. At this point, Pelly said, he decided to break the story to the press.

This had a two-fold result. It got the immediate attention of the congressional committee which called in Hanford Manager David Shaw to testify Tuesday. Shaw brought with him the Pasco newspaper as an example of the other result—the false impression spread from coast-to-coast via newspaper headlines that Hanford's guarded atomic secrets had been rifled.

Public reaction was electric. Letters flooded into Pelly's office, many thanking him for helping save the country from subversives. A Californian claiming to be an ex-Communist wrote that he was ready to "tell all" to a committee of Congress. Another said he knew all along that Hanford security was lax.

POINTS OVERLOOKED

At his press conference, Pelly conveyed the idea that he had gone into this matter thoroughly with both the AEC and the committee on atomic energy, pointing out that he had given it some three months consideration from the time he first heard the report until that moment. Yet Pelly said later he was unaware of two basic facts which this reporter was able to learn about Hanford docu-

ments in a matter of several hours after the press conference, from various authoritative sources:

1. The atomic energy committee makes periodic inventories of papers at all installations, and on Feb. 1 it found nothing seriously out of order at Hanford.

2. Any time the AEC finds suspicious circumstances, it calls in the FBI immediately—but it had not seen cause to call in the FBI at Hanford.

Both points were made known to Pelly by Cole in his letter. They materially alter the impression the Seattle congressman gave to reporters Friday.

The conclusion is inescapable that this case featured a chain reaction of exaggeration—first by Pelly, then reporters, then headline writers. By checking his rumor more carefully with authorities, Pelly could readily have quieted his own genuine anxieties about Hanford security without arousing those of the nation.

But of course there wouldn't have been a drop of publicity in doing it that way.

Brodie Twin Able to Walk With Guidance

CHICAGO (AP)—Rodney Dee Brodie has passed another milestone in his struggle toward a normal life. He's learning to walk.

The 2½-year-old boy, born a Siamese twin, can bear his own weight and propel himself forward, but he still needs the guiding and supporting hand of a nurse.

Doctors at the University of Illinois Medical Center predict he will be able to walk as normally as any child who has had a crippling condition to contend with.

Rodney still has not developed the power to recognize objects by touch or feel with his left hand or foot.

Thus when he steps with his left foot, he must watch it to see that it is on the floor.

The portion of the brain that translates an impulse into recognition on his left side is not functioning. However, he has shown steady improvement in this respect.

Rodney and his twin, Roger, were born joined extensively at the top of the skull. Roger died about a month after they were separated Dec. 17, 1952. Rodney's skull opening is protected by skin transplants but surgeons have not decided when they will insert a hard covering of bone, metal or plastic under the skin.

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Victory for Administration Predicted in Tax Battle

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senate Republican leaders Saturday forecast an administration victory in its battle against increasing income tax exemptions even if the senate approves the measure.

This viewpoint was expressed publicly by GOP Floor Leader William F. Knowland and privately by other Republican spokesmen. They suggested that a conference committee called to compromise differences in the Senate and House tax bills would kill an amendment to raise exemptions, if the Senate does not.

"My feeling is that the bill that ultimately passes will be very close to the position of the President and the one passed by the House," Knowland told reporters. The House voted against the increased exemptions.

However, Knowland shared the view of other Republican and Democratic leaders that the Senate vote will be close and he would not predict the outcome.

Sen. Walter F. George (D-Ga.), chief Senate spokesman for his party on taxes, said the outcome will depend mostly on the economic trend over the next 30 or 40 days.

Nearly all Democrats in Congress are supporting a proposal to increase personal income tax exemptions by amending the administration's general tax reform bill which the House passed on Thursday.

On that bill, House Democrats tried to attach an amendment to increase personal exemptions, now \$600 for each taxpayer and

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