

Solons Drift Back to Capital For Opening of New Congress; War, Peace Problems Ahead

By JOHN L. CUTTER
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Washington, Jan. 1 (U.P.)—Senators and representatives, many of them newcomers to Washington, were drifting into the capital today to prepare for Wednesday's opening session of a new congress whose primary aims will be to win the war quickly and fashion a lasting peace.

Preliminaries to the formal opening of the 79th congress will come tomorrow when both parties caucus to re-elect floor leaders—Rep. John W. McCormack of Massachusetts for the democrats and Rep. Joseph W. Martin, Jr., also of Massachusetts, for the republicans. Democratic leaders are expected to meet with President Roosevelt to work out the program for the opening days.

About 20 per cent of the membership of the new congress will consist of newcomers, legislators beginning their first terms. The house division will be 243 democrats, 190 republicans and two minor party members. In the senate, the democrats will hold 57 seats, the republicans 38 and the progressive party, one.

Demos In Command
Although the democratic majority will be comfortable in both chambers, there are ample indications that the new congress will not be a rubber stamp for the administration. Many members have made clear that they will seek more rigid congressional inspection of the nation's foreign policy and a more definite American stand on political questions in Europe.

Sen. Alexander Wiley, R., Wis., announced he would introduce soon a resolution calling on Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., to give the senate full information on foreign policy. The degree of cooperation attained between the senate and the administration may prove decisive when Roosevelt, within the next few months, submits the plan for U. S. participation in a new league of nations.

May Prove Historic
The battle for ratification of such a plan is expected to be the historic event of the 79th congress and will determine if the world is to have a second attempt at organized efforts to prevent another world war.

Battles also are expected on strictly home front questions. One of the first may come over proposals for universal youth training, which is scheduled for early consideration. While Roosevelt has requested a program "other than military," the house military affairs committee plans to work on a strictly compulsory military training bill for the nation's youths.

Issues Mentioned
Closely related with this question are such important peace-time issues as the size of the standing army, whether the U. S. should maintain the world's greatest navy after this war ends and what Atlantic and Pacific bases, if any, should be retained.

The war in Europe holds the fate of any immediate change in taxes. Congressional finance leaders would like to lower both individual and corporate taxes but say it is impossible until the

European phase of the war is over. When that happens, there may be an interim 10 per cent slash in all tax rates until such time as a new schedule can be worked out.

News of 1944

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the local war price and rationing board. A final party marks the closing of Bend's USO servicemen's club. Bend police receive a threat over the telephone to "lay-off the investigation of the kids' bombings or else!" Three attempts are made to burn the USO clubrooms after announcement is made that it is officially closed. In Portland, the Kaiser company launches a vessel named The Pilot Butte in honor of the historic mound, with William Niskanen, president of the chamber of commerce, representing the city.

Mayor A. T. Niebergall and Commissioner Melvin Munkres win over opponents in election for city commission positions. In the county race, Sheriff C. L. McCauley, Coroner C. P. Niesonger, Treasurer R. A. Ferguson and Commissioner A. E. Stevens are retained in office. Brig. Gen. R. P. Cowgill and Lt. Col. William Piron come to Bend and make assurance that the city will have a state guard unit, with Capt. Ralph Graham in command.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Callahan narrowly escape when a night fire guts their home here. Police redouble their vigil in Drake park when older boys are reported killing waterfowl with slingshots. Bend Kiwanians fete the Lava Bears after ending their season with six victories and three defeats. City-wide observance of Thanksgiving day is held in the Bend high school gymnasium.

At the Redmond army air field, Maj. R. H. Vincent is announced as returning to command of the training sector. The city commission hears complaints about alleged inadequate taxi and garbage collection service in Bend.

December
A labor dispute halts operations at the Warm Springs Lumber company near Madras for several days. False work for the construction of the North Unit irrigation flume across the Crooked river is begun. Razing of the old Log Cabin saloon near Bond street and Irving avenue recalls gay nineties. The weatherman reports that the first 11 months of 1944 are the driest in a decade. Tunnel No. 1,



Hit, like many war plants, by the manpower shortage, the Green River Ordnance Plant, Dixon, Ill., devised a poster to recruit workers for essential tasks. Above, worker Lois Woessner and John Ives, Illinois Reserve Militia, simulate the poster, for which they were the models.

Victory Remote Johnston Warns

Washington, Jan. 1 (U.P.)—President Eric Johnston of the U. S. chamber of commerce, warning that victory will be neither quick nor easy, today urged industry and labor alike to encourage workers in non-essential jobs to seek work in plants that produce the weapons needed by the "boys up front."

"I appeal to war plant workers to search for new ways to increase and speed production—to make better use of the manpower and supplies they have," Johnston said in a New Year's day broadcast. "I appeal once more to labor to cooperate with management to this end."

Nation Jumps Gun
Johnston said the German winter offensive showed clearly that the nation had "jumped the gun" when it started emphasizing reconversion and postwar planning after last summer's victories in Europe. While studies of reconversion must not be neglected, he said, primary attention now must be centered on winning the war.

"Our complacency of last summer and early fall now makes us look a little silly," he said. "So let's get back to winning the war first. Let's get back on the single track that will lead to victory—in Europe and in the Pacific. And let's quit kidding ourselves that the end will be either quick or easy."

A fish scale, similar in composition to bone, is made of several layers of minute fibers covered with a layer of lime.
The Western Pine association experiment station begins operations. The city's new \$7,000 snow loader arrives and is shortly put to work clearing Bend's streets. State and federal officials begin a sanitation inspection among Central Oregon dairies. In Madras, a jury finds Katherine Gorton guilty of manslaughter in connection with the shooting of James Roach, and she is sentenced to five years in prison.
A rare silver thaw visits Central Oregon, disrupting communications and snarling traffic. Interested persons appear before the city commission and urge greater activity at the municipal airport. The McKenzie pass is closed to traffic due to ice and snow conditions. The bureau of reclamation opens bids for the construction of 10 more miles of the North Unit irrigation canal south of Madras. Mrs. Sadie Lucas, Bend pioneer, dies suddenly. Two escaped convicts from the Washington state prison are captured by Bend police. The chamber of commerce reports good progress in raising a post-war industrial fund. As December ends heavy snowfall is reported in the Cascades, three feet being noted at Santiam summit.

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Year's Statistics Reviewed; Marriage License Drop Noted

A year ago, when marriage licenses issued in 1943 jumped to 225 against 1942's total of 94, the increase was credited to the proximity of army trainees at Camp Abbot and Redmond air fields, instead of on Cupid. Those who charged it to the army apparently were right for, in July when Camp Abbot and the Redmond field were all but deserted, for a time the number of marriage licenses issued went into a dive and did not recover until November.

Of the 172 marriage licenses issued in the year just ended, 61 were issued in the last six months and 111 in the first six months of 94. If these statistics do not furnish enough comfort to those who contend that this war's army is a marrying army, a play-by-play account might help. Here it is: January, 17; February, 18; March, 27; April, 19; May, 21; June, 23; July, 11; August, 7; September, 8; October, 9; November, 12; December, 14.

Also, the Deschutes county clerk now has on hand several applications for marriage licenses, filed in December, but not yet granted.

Turning now to naturalization applications granted: In 1943, when 196 people—exactly 166 more than wanted to become citizens the year before—applied, the situation again was laid squarely at the army's door. This year, once more, the army is held largely responsible for the increase over the 1942 figure of 30 naturalizations granted. This year 104 per-

sons became naturalized citizens of the United States in Deschutes county.

The filing of honorable discharges spurred in 1944, when 95 honorables from the army, the navy and marine corps were filed as against 16 during the previous year. These figures do not mean that 95 Deschutes county men were discharged from the armed forces in 1944. They are explained, rather, because, in February, 1944, a law became effective whereby those who had received discharges previously might obtain a bonus off from \$100 to \$300 by submitting discharge papers to the proper authorities. The discharges had to be filed with a county clerk prior to submission. Hence persons who had served since Sept. 1940 and subsequently received honorable discharges hastened to file them with the nearest county clerk.

The deed business, as unofficially reported by Mrs. Dan P. Dacey, Deschutes county clerk, was just so-so. Deeds recorded in 1943 made a spectacular leap of 50 per cent over those recorded in 1942. In 1942 there were 1,086 deeds filed. During 1943 there were 1,581 filed. A slight drop over last year's figures will show in 1944 with 1,506 deeds recorded, or 75 less than last year.

And what agency has been held largely responsible for the increase of deeds recorded in Deschutes county during 1943-44? You guessed it—the army!

Stick to War Job, Is Plea of OWI

Washington, Jan. 1 (U.P.)—From the office of war information: the government needs and asks its citizens in this 160th week of the war to:

Destroy all invalidated food ration stamps—their use is a violation of rationing regulations.

Fill 5,500 jobs for men and women making cotton duck critically needed by our armed forces.

Donate 100,000 books to the American merchant marine library. Books provide relief from "torpedo tension" and "convoy fatigue."

Volunteer as a price panel assistant. 50,000 workers are needed immediately—to help prevent inflation—help hold prices down.

Stick to your war job to speed and maintain a steady flow of supplies to our men on the fighting fronts.

Fire Destroys Big Plant in Salem

Salem, Ore., Jan. 1 (U.P.)—Fire which early yesterday destroyed the Blue Lake producer's canning plant in west Salem caused damage estimated at as much as \$1,250,000, and destroyed huge stores of canned vegetables destined for the army.

The fire, which apparently started in the boiler room or office, was thought possibly of incendiary origin. Firemen who responded from both west Salem and

Salem, across the river, succeeded in saving the major portions of a dehydrating plant run in connection with the cannery, and a new warehouse.

Blaze Spectacular
The blaze was perhaps the most spectacular in this area since the old State capitol building burned in 1935. Flames flew high into the air and the sound of exploding vegetable-filled cans was like the sound of an artillery barrage, spectators reported.

The plant had been operating at full capacity this year, and a large portion of the pack was destroyed. Damage was limited to the plant and nearby buildings were not harmed, except for some whose paint was blistered by the intense heat.

Peace Prospects in Greece Bright

Athens, Jan. 1 (U.P.)—Archbishop Damaskinos, new regent of Greece, conferred with Greek political leaders today preparatory to selecting a new cabinet, and prospects for peace in the Greek civil war brightened perceptibly.

Damaskinos, named regent by King George Saturday, was sworn in at noon yesterday and immediately began a series of individual conferences with George Papandreou, resigned premier. The-mistakes Soufoulis, leader of the liberal party, and others.

Associates said Damaskinos probably would not select the new premier for several days. The cabinet, when formed, was expected to be made up largely of "dark horses," men previously not identified actively with politics. Hopes for an early peace rose.

Tower, Last Times Tonight



Kay Kyser in the kind of Kay Kyser carnival that keeps the stars dancing in your eyes. "Carolina Blues."

not only with the resignation of the Papandreou government, but with reports from British sources that the revolutionist E.L.A.S. has accepted the conditions laid down by Lt. Gen. Ronald Scobie, British commander in Athens, for cessation of hostilities.

The E.L.A.S. offer was said to have been contained in a note addressed to Prime Minister Churchill, but was answered in his reply by Scobie. Scobie's reply said that if the E.L.A.S. and E.A.M., its parent body, will confirm acceptance of his terms, he would make arrangements forthwith for cessation of hostilities.

Attic insects, such as cluster or honey flies, wasps and elm tree beetles, can be controlled with a pyrethrum spray.

Terms Outlined

Scobie's terms were evacuation by E.L.A.S. forces of Attica and their disarmament.

The royalist newspaper National Pulse said that King George had messaged the Greek government to continue military operations against the E.L.A.S. and to exclude E.L.A.S. and E.A.M. representatives from the new government, but the report was denied by Papandreou.

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