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Washington Column

By PETER EDSON
(NEA Washington Correspondent)

SITUATION DETERIORATING

So the United States of America has a new attorney general, chosen by the president as his predecessor. The new man, J. P. McGranery, will investigate corruption in government, a job which J. Howard McGrath could not do because, in the digging, he would inevitably have revealed unwholesome conditions which had developed in his own department under his own regime. McGrath could hardly investigate himself. As long as he was in office he would allow no one else to put on an investigation which might reflect discredit on him.

For this, it is not too difficult to guess, he fired Newbold Morris, who had been appointed, supposedly, to dig up everything. Morris had actually dug up little; chiefly he was threatening to. He was the president's appointee, yet McGrath removed him. Morris, strangely enough, was beginning to take his job seriously, something that there was no indication he was expected to do.

Obviously a man with such odd ideas of duty had to be removed, but, as obviously, President Truman couldn't come right out and do it. McGrath did it, and, if we may guess again, the task was not distasteful to him. In dismissing Morris, however, he had so far transgressed the bounds of decency that he must, for appearance sake, resign. It is significant, we think, that President Truman, since McGrath's resignation, has given no hint that Morris return to his job.

In all of this there is more potent suggestion of corruption—reaching into even the higher levels of government—than in the most violent accusations that have been heard in recent months. And there is evidence of confusion, a continuing of the confusion which became manifest when President Truman decided the other day that he did not care to run for another term. Since his declaration there has been a succession of occurrences that definitely cannot be overlooked in any appraisal of the Washington scene.

Announcement of the resignation of Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson was one. Then came the McGrath irritation at being asked to disclose the source of his income outside his salary as attorney general. Newbold Morris was putting the question to hundreds and McGrath was included. And then came the firing of Morris and on the heels of that, the quitting of McGrath. To use a military euphemism, the situation is deteriorating rapidly; in plain English things are going to pieces in Washington in these days of the Fair Deal. Whether the man at the top will still be able to hold them together is doubtful.

LLOYD DOUTHIT

For many years Lloyd Douthit ran his little store on Wall street featuring fine fishing and hunting equipment. In his off hours, which came more often as he advanced in age, he loved to headquarter on the Metolius. His recreation, as his livelihood, was intimately connected with hunting and fishing. In each he was expert. His example was a factor in developing the popularity of the eastern Cascade slope as a recreation area. He was a sportsman in the best sense of the word. He inculcated the love of clean sport in others.

It hasn't been long since Lloyd Douthit retired. After that we saw him only now and then. Tuesday there came the word of his tragic death, doubly tragic because it came about in the handling of a firearm with which he had become thoroughly familiar over the years. Perhaps too familiar, as happens sometimes.

We are among many who will miss him. He was a fine friend and a good citizen.

Against dangerous speeding a driver may warn himself, by his speed. A detector in the pavement helps by observing departure from a safe rate of progress. In Virginia such a signal system is actually in use. Installed on a curve which is considered dangerous when the speed rate is greater than 25 miles an hour, a red light glows on the curve to bring traffic to a halt. If an oncoming vehicle slows to less than 25 miles a sufficient distance away, the light changes to green. A great idea. We know of one or two curves on this side of the continent that would lend themselves readily to its application.

Use Bulletin Want Ads for Best Results!

Grand Opening

Saturday, April 5th

Dairy Bar

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SPECIAL—Saturday Only
 1 Gallon Ice Cream 1.59
 Receive FREE • Box of Cones and
 • Can Hershey's Chocolate Topping
 (While supply lasts)

FREE—Order French Fries with Hamburger

WASHINGTON — The inside story of how the Wage Stabilization Board arrived at its recommendations in the now-celebrated steel wage case will provide its main defense in the coming WSB investigation just voted by Congress.

The full record of the three-month steel wage case hearing and Wage Board deliberations far into the night fills many a volume of testimony. But the highlights of these proceedings on the principal issues show how the job was tackled and why a majority of the 12 board members came to the decisions reached in their final recommendations.

In the first place, it is contended that the steel companies' representatives and the CIO steelworkers' union had done no real bargaining up to the time the case was given to WSB on Jan. 7. In passing the case to the board, many issues were included which were not just wage questions.

WSB set up a special panel to hear all these points argued on their merits. Harry Shulman of Yale was chairman. Industry members were John Curry Bane, Jr., of Pittsburgh and Adm. Earl Mills of New York. Union members were Eli Oliver of the railroad brotherhoods, a CIO Arnold Campo of the steelworkers.

The problem of WSB Chairman Nathan P. Feinsinger and the four public members in the present that steel wage case was to reach fair and equitable recommendations by majority vote, since the actual bargaining had been transferred to the board by labor and management.

This was illustrated when the union shop issue came up for consideration. The first three motions all failed. Labor union representatives first moved that union shops be provided for. Public and industry members voted against it.

Industry members then moved that the union shop be referred back to the unions and the companies. Public and labor voted No.

Public members then moved that the issue be referred back to the unions and the companies, with the proviso that if no agreement could be reached by direct bargaining, the issue would come back to the board. Labor and industry members voted against that.

Public members then moved that

the union shop be accepted in principle, but that the precise form should be worked out by the unions and the companies. This was to take into consideration the fact that there are different union shop formulas now in effect at such companies as General Motors, Crucible Steel and some railroads. The steel principals would have to work out a formula of their own. Public and labor members voted for that, and it carried.

On the wage issue, a great deal of time was devoted to a search for what each side would agree to that a majority would accept. Labor proposed a straight 18½ cents an hour, across-the-board increase. Public and industry members voted No.

Industry members then voted a nine-cent increase, the nine cents to include all fringe increases. Public and labor voted No.

The final recommendation which public and labor members voted for was a 12½-cent increase now, two and one-half cents more July 1, another two and one-half cents Jan. 1, 1953, and no reopening of the contract for further wage adjustments till July 1, 1953—18 months away.

In the opinion of public members of WSB, this recommendation was within the area of its discretion under its rules. On cost of living increases alone, they claim that a 16-cent-an-hour increase would have been justified to cover price advances since Oct. 15, 1950. This was the index used in reaching agreement on the last steel wage contract, which expired Dec. 31, 1951.

Industry members, however, claim that the cost of living increase should be only nine cents, going back to the index of Jan. 15, 1951.

Club to Receive Charter April 26

REDMOND, April 4—The Redmond Rotary Club will formally receive its charter at ceremonies to be held the evening of April 25. Westminster hall has been tentatively set as the place for the installation banquet. Plans were announced at the meeting of the provisional club Thursday noon.

Election of officers is to take place at the April 17 meeting with Art Carr, Marion Coyner and Olaf Anderson serving as members of the nominating committee.

Dr. H. W. Steelhammer who was introduced by Millard Eakin spoke to members at the Thursday meeting about final plans for the Powell Butte Farmers' club Spring Frolic, an event of next Saturday night at the Redmond air base. Dr. Steelhammer also spoke about his recent trip to Washington, D. C., in behalf of the potato industry.

Other guests included H. F. Huff, a Rotarian from Hermiston, and Charles Davis and G. M. de Broecker, Bend Rotarians and Lewis A. Nichols of Madras.

Minister Back From Convention

Rev. and Mrs. A. B. Turner returned earlier this week from Springfield, Mo., where they attended the national Sunday school convention of the Assemblies of God, attendance at which was approximately 10,000.

The first national Sunday school convention of the church was held in the same place ten years ago, with 17 delegates present. Actual registration this year, not including children and visitors from 24 other denominations, was 9,133.

J. Oliver Gideon, acting mayor of Springfield, gave the address of welcome to the large group.

After a big service each morning, the delegates scattered to different church auditoriums about the city for conferences on various subjects of Sunday school work.

The big convention this year was divided among three auditoriums.

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Bend's Yesterdays

(From The Bulletin Files)

FORTY YEARS AGO
(Wednesday, April 4, 1912)

There is no ordinance in Bend prohibiting the erection of tents. I. E. Allen, president of the City Council, reports. He said several families moved out of Bend recently when informed they could not live in tents.

Construction of the North canal and a diversion dam, on the river just north of town, has been started, with L. F. Gerdezt in charge for the Central Oregon Irrigation Co.

Within three weeks, ice making in Bend will be started by the Central Oregon Ice and Cold Storage Co. R. G. Hall heads the firm.

In a rattling good game, the Bend girls' basketball team defeated Prineville 12 to 9 Saturday night, at the county seat. Anne Markel and Cornelia Wilson played centers. Angie Young and Arrie Block, forwards; Ethel Holmes and Gertrude Markel, guards. In the second half, Louzetta Wronstaff replaced Miss Markel at center. Nell Markel and Iva West were substitutes.

Methodists of Bend have taken steps to build a church on the lot they own on Ohio street.

Leroy Fox is very proud of a gold watch which he won in an Oregonian circulation contest. He is now delivering 125 papers every night in Bend.

'COMEDY OF ERRORS'
SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 4 (UP)—Sen. Robert A. Taft says the firing of Newbold Morris and the resignation of Attorney General J. Howard McGrath was a "comedy of errors." Taft, campaigning in Illinois for the April 8 primary elections, says the departure of Morris, the administration's clean-up chief, shows "there never was any good faith in the investigation."

Democrat Says Choice is Bad

James P. McGranery as attorney general was "so bad as to be almost unbelievable."

Dilworth, a Democratic critic of the administration, predicted "the Richardson Dilworth, district attorney of Philadelphia, said McGranery will be marked by incompetence, bias, and that President Truman's aporism and ward politics at its pointment of Federal Judgeworst."

EPIDEMIC HITS ANCHORAGE, Alaska, April 4
(UP)—A pneumonia epidemic has taken the life of one infant and stricken 14 others in the Illama lake region 200 miles southwest of here, the Alaska Health department reported Friday.

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Powell Butte Farmers Club
Annual

Spring Frolic
and

DANCE

Saturday Night
April 5, 8:30

REDMOND AIR BASE HANGER
Music by

Warm Springs Indians

Dancing at 9:00 p. m.

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