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"With or without offense to friends or foes
I sketch your world exactly as it goes."

The "Fireside" Chat

In his "fireside chat" last night, President Roosevelt outlined his program for the special session called for November 15 to enact by Christmas, if possible, the legislation side-tracked in the last session. He outlined the following desired legislation:

1. Crop production control to "build an all-weather farm program so that in the long run prices will be more stable." This includes the "ever-normal granary."
2. Wage and hour standards to "make millions of our lowest paid workers actual buyers of billions of dollars of industrial and farm products."
3. Regional planning to conserve natural resources, prevent floods and produce electric power for general use. This is to be obtained by the creation of seven TVA's.
4. Government reorganization to provide "twentieth century machinery" to make the "democratic process work more efficiently." This includes consolidation of all power in the hands of federal bureaucracy dominated by the president.
5. Stronger anti-trust laws in furtherance of "a low price policy which encourages the widest possible consumption."

The address indicated that the President has dropped his court-packing proposal which deadlocked the last session. He was silent on the Black appointment, but took a crack at the court when he said the people had been "checked" in efforts to control production and secure wage-hour standards.

On foreign affairs, the President reaffirmed United States cooperation in behalf of peace and the nine-power conference to seek agreement by a peaceful solution of the far eastern conflict.

The Utopian objectives set by the President are all desirable, but it is doubtful if they can be artificially attained by legislation proposed. At least no emergency exists necessitating a special session. The committees on agriculture are still conducting hearings and will not be ready to report until late in the session. Wages and hours are adjusting themselves with the militant spread of unionism. Political regional control of natural resources will destroy state rights and private enterprise. Government reorganization is badly needed, but it should be for simplification, efficiency and economy, not for multiplying bureaucracy. Talk of strengthening anti-trust laws does not jibe very well with the action of the administration in passing fair-price laws for the benefit of monopoly at the expense of consumers and with the virtual suspension of anti-trust acts which have characterized the Roosevelt regime.

The Toll of Carelessness

Next to overheated and defective stoves and chimneys, careless smokers continue to lead the parade of causes of destructive fires in Oregon, according to the report of Hugh Earle, state fire marshal, on insured losses for the state during the first six months of 1937.

Four hundred and eighty-two out of a total of 2184 blazes reported were due to the negligence of men and women who dropped off to sleep while smoking, who failed to see that their cigars or cigarettes were completely out before disposing of them, or who failed to extinguish smouldering matches before throwing them away.

Fifty thousand dollars in losses were the result of such carelessness.

With the rapid increase of modern home heating installations the damage resulting from overheated and defective stoves and flues was reduced somewhat, but still accounted for nearly \$170,000 in losses. Five hundred and forty-four fires were attributed to these causes during the six months period.

The benefits accruing from higher wiring standards, better and closer inspection and improved electrical appliances is reflected in the decreased number of fires attributed to defective wiring. Instead of occupying one of the first places on the list of causes, it dropped to sixth rank for the first six months of this year, being blamed for only 118 blazes.

Fireworks did a complete fade-out with no fires from that origin, and incendiary accounted for only eight. Open fires, improperly guarded, were the cause in 205 cases.

The outstanding conclusion to be gained from reading the report is that more than half the fires in Oregon homes and other structures in the period covered were due to carelessness and negligence of one form or another, and could have been prevented by the exercise of due caution.

The Suckers Still Bite

Having milked the gullible merchants of western Oregon comparatively dry of contributions to their "defense fund" to finance litigation designed to keep pinball machines in operation as long as there remains even a technical doubt concerning their illegality, lawyers representing the so-called Oregon Merchants Legislative league are now turning their attention to the fresher fields of the far eastern part of the state.

Press reports state that Walter L. Tooze, Portland attorney and strategy director for the league, has applied for temporary injunctions in Union, Walla and Malheur counties to restrain local officers from enforcing bans pronounced against the gambling devices until the supreme court has decided test cases now pending.

Through the fees they collect for their services the attorneys are the only ones who will benefit materially from such litigation. That has been the case in the Willamette valley, where one attorney is reported to have collected more than \$2500 from pinball "merchants" in the past six or seven months. All of the material issues involved are included in the cases now pending in the supreme court. They will be decided one way or another within the next few weeks, and no amount of money the operators may contribute will influence that decision.

Relaxed Huskies

Head for Pullman

Seattle, Oct. 13 (AP)—Displaying more zipper in practice sessions than at any time previous this season, the hopped up Washington Huskies looked forward to two more drills on the home field today before entraining tomorrow night for Pullman where they play Washington State college Saturday.

Apparently relieved of the strain of being undefeated and unscathed defending champions after Oregon State's upset 6-3 victory over them last week, the Huskies relaxed, threw off their care and banged

A Dog's Life

By Beck

WE'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU'D LOOK AFTER ALLEN'S DOG WHILE WE GO SOUTH FOR THE WINTER.

WELL...I'M NOT FOND OF ANIMALS, BUT HE CAN SLEEP IN OUR GARAGE AND I'LL TRY TO THINK OF FEEDING HIM NOW AND THEN.



Soviet Slaughter May End November 7

Moscow, Oct. 13 (U.P.)—Russia's merciless purge of enemies of the Stalinist regime may be ended by November 7, 20th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution, it was understood today. A United Press survey listed a total of 817 persons known to have been executed in the purge. Probably the total is larger, but it was not believed to be materially so.

End of the campaign would mean that the country is free of men suspected of deviating from the strict communist party line. The campaign for the first election under the new constitution could proceed without thoughts of "traitors." The election is to be held December 12.

On the calendar as publicly announced, there remained but eight political trials, involving 62 defendants.

Funeral Directors Of Valley Meet

Funeral directors of central Willamette held a meeting in the Argo hotel last night. Short talks on educational subjects were made by E. R. Ekman of Silverton; Keith O'Hair of Woodburn, and Leeton W. Howell of Salem.

H. N. Evershart of Canby reported proceedings of the United States embalming board's conference and annual convention of the National Funeral Directors' association, both of which were held in Minneapolis two weeks ago.

An invitation from the Northwestern Oregon Funeral Directors' association to hold a joint meeting with them next month in Oregon City was unanimously accepted and the following committee appointed to arrange the program: Walter A. Smith of Monmouth; Wendie Weddie of Stayton; C. W. Henkle of Dallas; George A. Gwin, Newberg, and Charles W. Claggett of Salem. George Ryan of Portland, executive secretary of the Oregon Funeral Directors' association, represented the state association at this meeting, and President J. Melvin Ringo of Woodburn presided.

Arguments Heard In Newspaper Suit

Arguments of attorneys in the appealed case of Herbert Fleishacker and C. H. Brookhagen against the Portland News Publishing company were heard in the state supreme court here today.

The appeal was based on an order of Circuit Judge Lusk of Multnomah county who set aside an affirmative judgment and granted a new trial.

The plaintiffs sued for \$46,342.72 for alleged breach of contracts made in May, 1931, under which the plaintiffs sold to the defendant capital stock and assets of the Portland Telegram.

The defendant pleaded that the purchase was induced by fraudulent representations and filed a counterclaim for \$500,000.

After a trial lasting several days a jury returned a judgment of \$380,000 for the defendant, representing the amount of alleged damages after deducting the amount demanded in the plaintiff's complaint.

through scrimmage like a drove of playful pups.

Don Jones, sub fullback, was back at his chores, and Al Cruser, the regular fullback, showed signs of being able to resume his line smashing for the Cougar tangle.

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CUTICURA

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

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Washington, Oct. 13—The hand is generally quicker than the eye in Washington. But sometimes it becomes actually etheral.

For instance, the house rivers and harbors committee made public its hearings on the seven little TVA's bill the other day. What it said makes very dull reading, but what it did not say may make a celebrated incident.

Ostentatiously missing was any word from the army engineers. Ordinarily these non-political experts on navigable streams would be the first to speak. If you rumble around looking for an explanation you will be apt to find that their speechlessness was not self-imposed, and you will run into a situation which may be as important as all the seven little TVA's put together.

The inside story of what happened is this:

The house committee called on all the interested government departments for views regarding the legislation. Some peculiar answers were received. Attorney General Cummings said he preferred not to offer any suggestions regarding legislative policy. Labor Secretary Perkins said frankly he knew nothing about it. The treasury saw fit to mention that its views had been cleared through the budget bureau.

What the budget bureau had to do with it was not clear to congressmen until they obtained a copy of an executive order issued by President Roosevelt nearly two years ago (December 21, 1935).

Apparently few ever heard of it before, but this presidential order specifically says all government officials must let the budget bureau pass on anything they tell congress, whether about the weather, the world series or little TVA's.

The purpose of this restriction is hinted by the order which adds that any report to congress "shall include a statement as to whether the proposed legislation is or is not in accord with the program of the president."

In those words apparently lies the hook on which the army engineers' views were snagged. They happened to be against the president's program.

Someone on the inside who saw the lost report of the engineers before it was lost, say it made strong objections to the president's idea.

The main objection was that the creation of seven regional TVA's would create seven different regional policies. It would destroy the national standard and create seven new standards, the engineers thought. The national policy had been in their hands since 1824 and never had the breath of scandal touched it. Except once, and then it was immediately stifled by a term in Leavenworth for the officer involved.

This report was prepared. Sent to the budget bureau, but never reached congress.

The question congressmen are trying to run down is whether the budget bureau has become a censor.

As they see it, no one would object to a certain amount of restraint upon underlings who might run to congress with varied views upon varied subjects. This is especially true in view of the varied types of underlings running around here. They cannot be let

Comment of Press On Fireside Chat

(By the United Press)

Editorial comment on President Roosevelt's fireside chat: New York Times—"If there is work to be done, the sooner a start is made at it... the more opportunity afforded for congress to exercise its own independent judgment in assaying and perfecting the plans of the administration, the better... More emphasis on the increasingly critical problem of balancing the national budget, and an assurance that generous and early consideration would be given to existing legislation which unnecessarily handicaps the expansion of business, would have been welcome additions to the fireside talk."

The New York Herald Tribune—"It will carry conviction with those already convinced. Others will wonder whether the continued restatement of general objectives does not demand some more frequent discussion of the detailed practical methods by which they are to be achieved; but such skeptics have at least learned by this time not to expect that from the president."

The Scripps-Howard newspapers—"We are glad that the extra six-week congressional start has been provided by this call by the president... There has been too much bum's-rush legislation... Too little chance for study and debate on the part of those who, after all, are the law-makers... May it (the congress) approach its tremendous task of writing into law the ideals of the president with a thoroughness and a sincerity and an efficiency that will bring forth not confusion of tongue and of language, but clarity and wisdom and lasting results."

Cleveland Plain Dealer—"We do not concede that to oppose a special session at this time is to indicate loose."

But if the two year old executive order is being used to keep from congress anything unfavorable to the president's program, by self-responsible authorities such as the army engineers—congress might as well abdicate along with the engineers."

How much the congressional leaders have been telling the president privately about a special session of congress is not known. There is evidence that their view has not been sought generally. However, it is decidedly against calling a session.

Even some who thought in August that a special session would be desirable are now against it. They believe the business situation should be allowed to settle before legislation is taken up.

The supreme court action left the Black case just where it was in the beginning. The ruling in the LeVitt-Kelly cases, however, seemed to have a hidden meaning for Mr. Roosevelt. The court mentioned three precedents, one of which indicates pointedly that the person to bring a suit against Black is not Mr. LeVitt or Mr. Kelly, but Mr. R. himself.

The proper way to test Mr. Black's right to his seat, the court seemed to say indirectly, was to have Mr. R. instruct the attorney general to bring quo warranto proceedings.

This leaves Chief Justice Hughes still one up on Mr. Roosevelt.

It is now certain that the house committee will report corrections in the corporations undistributed tax levy, whether the treasury likes them or not. The extent of these corrections will be "the Vinson cushions" in the original house bill proposed last session. Anyone interested should write his congressman for a copy of that bill as a guide to what to expect.

The treasury may like it more than you think. Reason: the negotiations are now in the hands of Mr. Morgenthau's Assistant Magill instead of Morgenthau Counsel Oliphant who devised the original bill.

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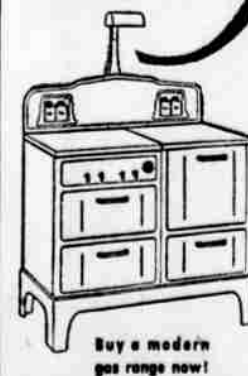
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