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Salem, Oregon, Tuesday, August 2, 1949

Norblad's Question to Congress

Walter Norblad, congressman from this district, raised a few eyebrows in Washington, D.C., last week.

He said congress had been illegally convened since July 1. He based this contention on Article I, section 5 of the U.S. constitution which states, in part:

"Neither House, during the session of Congress, shall without the consent of the other adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting."

Norblad's opinion is that during remodeling of the capitol both houses moved to a place other than that in which they were sitting and no consent "of the other" was obtained to make that move.

For this bit of careful watching and raising of an interesting point, Norblad has received some chiding from his own district. Particularly from his own district is this chiding unfair.

Those are the persons who can think back to the wrangling that went on over possible changing of the location of the capitol here in Salem following the capitol fire in 1935. In the Oregon constitution, Article XIV defines the "seat of government."

Because Norblad brings up a question as to the meaning of the wording of the constitution, why should he be criticized? After all, he could recall the difficulties Oregon had in interpreting the meaning of the wording regarding the "seat of government" here.

Perhaps the federal constitution wording in question was meant to cover a move from one city to another. The courts would have to decide the interpretation.

Meanwhile, Norblad has raised a question, which, if it has real basis, would raise havoc with the normal functions of government, as he said. Some one might later try to tie up in the courts some legislation passed since July 1 on the point Norblad raises.

Military Strength Compared

United States chiefs of staff are conferring with army officers in western Europe to find out manpower available for use in carrying out plans for defense by partners in the Atlantic pact.

If the full mobilization of manpower of the Atlantic pact nations, including the United States and Britain, their armed strength would total nearly 600,000 more than that of the present Soviet bloc.

In naval power, the Atlantic pact countries are far ahead. In air power, the balance might be close in numbers of planes but the western powers probably have farther-flying and harder-hitting bombers.

These comparisons are all based on official and unofficial estimates; some of the estimates in the cases of the Soviet countries are admittedly little more than a guess.

In industrial strength, the Atlantic pact countries are far ahead, too. They top the Soviet-dominated countries four to one in 1950 steel production goals, over three to one in pig iron, two to one in coal.

Communist Inspired Strikes

It has been repeatedly charged in congress that the simultaneous prolonged dock strikes in Hawaii, Britain and Australia were instigated by communists and part of Moscow's cold war strategy to demonstrate how powerless the democracies would be in case of a war with Russia with their shipping tied-up by communist controlled unions.

These congressional charges have been voiced, not only in the American congress, but by top British and Australian officials. Pitched battles have taken place in all three countries with the strikers. The British army has had to be utilized to break the wild-cat strike in London, fighting is still in progress at Sydney, while Hawaii has had its life stream cut-off for three months, under the leadership of Harry Bridges, whose communist proclivities are too well established to need comment.

The territorial legislature has agreed on legislation to put the government in the stevedoring business on the open shop plan, the government already owning the docks. Bridges threatens to declare vessels so loaded as "hot cargoes" which American longshoremen would refuse to handle in American ports.

As all unions are sacred cows with the American administration, whether communist controlled or not, Hawaiian appeals for assistance fall on deaf ears, although the Hawaiian employers have agreed to accept the recommendation of the territorial fact-finding board for a 14 cents an hour wage increase, the union rejected it and demands arbitration as an entering wedge to secure wage scales patterns in sugar, pineapple and other industries on the mainland scale, despite lower cost of living.

BY BECK

Penalty of Progress



SIPS FOR SUPPER

Consider the Frog

By DON UPJOHN

There seem to be some delicate questions of the humanities mixed up in a story coming out of Florence that a man was arrested there on a charge of killing bullfrogs via of shooting them.



Don Upjohn

According to our laws, which are presumed to be designed along humane lines, if he'd caught the bullfrogs on hook and line he'd have been perfectly within his legal rights and the cops couldn't touch him.

frogs the process should at least be tempered with a little mercy.

Tough Break for Europe

New York (AP)—None of those scanty French bathing outfits will ever reveal the charms of Miss America of 1948. "They are not decent and I don't think American girls should wear them," says the 18-year-old beauty queen, Bebe Shopp of Hopkins, Minn.

We understand from the boys who have been looking over the place lately that George Alexander, out at his community house, has a special department with some extra workers who do a first class job of turning out false clackers and have quite a demand for their work.

Financial Troubles of 8-Year-Old

Boise, Ida. (AP)—A boy from Midvale today appealed to Gov. C. A. Robins for help in getting out of a financial difficulty.

"I am in serious trouble. I caught and delivered \$7 worth of magpie heads, thinking this promised money was good, backed by the state of Idaho.

"I mortgaged this expected money to buy a hunting knife. I can't pay for this knife, which I need every day. What can I do in this matter. I am 8 years old.

"Yours Truly, BILLY YOUNGE." The governor passed the letter on to the fish and game department which handles the state bounty on magpies.

A Hot Foot for This Burglar

Cleveland (AP)—The thief who stole 35 boxes of shoes from the automobile of salesman Allen Burchfield doubtless was burned up when he examined the loot. The shoes all were for the right foot.

SMART-CRACKS THE ANNOUNCER

Vacation Spent on Giveaway Shows Brings Man More Than His Job

By PATRICIA CLARY

Hollywood, Aug. 2 (AP)—An insurance man spent his vacation going to giveaway shows and went back to his job Monday with more money than he would have earned by working.

Frank B. St. John, a middle-aged former Chicagoan, collected a total of \$150 in merchandise in five days of sitting at radio shows.

"I always thought I could be smarter than the people I heard on giveaway shows," he said. "Now I've proved it."

St. John started his one-week vacation with about 70 tickets he had rounded up from friends. It turned out however that he couldn't stand the strain of more than 20 shows, four a day.

"It's much more work than working," he said. "The questions are easy, but the nervous strain is terrific. It's too hard on me to do it more than one week a year."

By Friday, he was so tuckered out he had to stay home from the week-end gold mines to get a rest.

St. John made his killing on only one program.

"They asked me to tell a girl how her husband would feel about her having a baby," he said. "I said things were very convenient for fathers these days."

"For that they gave me a floor lamp, a pair of \$18.75 shoes and 12 pairs of nylons. It all was worth about \$150."

He was picked for "Take it or Leave it" too, but time ran out before they got to him. They gave him a case of beans anyway.

"I sit on the aisle and make some smart crack when the announcer goes by," he confided. "That's the way to get picked."

St. John, who lived in Chl-

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Mundt Proposes Bureau To Avoid Inside Lobbying

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Those who have long watched the Washington run-around feel that South Dakota's Senator Karl Mundt has come up with the best proposal yet to avoid inside lobbying and help the little business man.

Mundt, who knows his Washington well, proposed to establish a government information bureau to give businessmen all data regarding government contracts.



Drew Pearson

If properly organized, this could be a great boon to all business. The average firm cannot afford to employ a special representative to sit in Washington, therefore loses out to big firms that do.

General Motors long has operated one of the most efficient offices in Washington, entertains army-navy officers, knows pretty much what the government is buying.

That's why the average business firm is left out in the cold, partly why only six American firms get 60 per cent of the government's war contracts.

Senator Mundt, realizing this, has proposed an information bureau which could usher in a new era for little business.

HOW McGRATH STARTED Small incidents in the lives of men sometimes become turning points in history.

One incident that turned the life of Sen. J. Howard McGrath, newly designated attorney general, was a torchlight parade in Rhode Island 20 years ago.

The parade was staged by Harry Storin of Keilh's Theatre in honor of actor Eddie Dowling, a native son who was returning to Rhode Island to play "Honey-moon Lane."

That gave McGrath his big political start. He ran for state attorney general, then for governor, and while serving as governor was offered the post of solicitor general in the justice department.

Truman had first offered this office—which presents government cases to the supreme court—to Gov. Ellis Arnall of Georgia. Arnall turned it down.

At that time, Truman's chances of being re-elected were considered nil. However, Governor McGrath accepted the job on the second bounce, even left the governorship to take it. From there, he went on to the senate, now to the cabinet. If he had declined the solicitor generalship, he would never be where he is today.

BITTER BYRD BATTLE

One of the most important primary elections of the year takes place in Virginia today.

Its importance lies in the possibility that, following the defeat of Boss Hogue in Jersey City and Tammany by FDR, Jr., today may see the downfall of another machine—that of Sen. Harry E. Byrd.

So serious is the fight that Byrd's colleague in the senate, Willis Robertson, tactfully objects to being labeled part of the "Byrd Machine." He is afraid that eventually he might go down with it.

Byrd's candidate for governor, John S. Battle, has the distinction of co-authoring last year's bill to deprive President Truman of Virginia's vote in the electoral college even if he won the popular vote.

How desperate the Byrd forces are is indicated by their efforts to take one of the candidates, Rennie Arnold, out of the race. A prosperous pen manufacturer, Arnold has just started in politics, believes that businessmen shouldn't merely complain about bad government but should do something to improve government.

After speaking in Rocky Mount, Va., not long ago, Arnold dropped in at a restaurant, there met State Treasurer Jesse Dillon and Brady Almond, both ardent Byrd henchmen.

"You fellows don't labor under the illusion that any of you have a chance of winning, do you?" challenged Dillon. "Because you haven't."

"No, you haven't got a chance," continued Almond, waving a wad of greenbacks in front of Arnold's nose, "because you haven't got this kind of stuff on election day."

MERRY-GO-ROUND Bob Reynolds, noisy isolationist ex-senator from North Carolina, is talking about running for the senate against quiet,

BY GUILD

Wizard of Odds



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

It Ain't the Humanity In N. Y.—It's the Heat

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—The big news Monday was—it's cooler." Those two magic words were of more interest along the heated eastern seaboard than the standings of the major league baseball teams or the question of arming friendly nations under the Atlantic pact.



Hal Boyle

"It's cooler!" "It's cooler!" "It's cooler!" Every body said it—and everybody felt it. Everybody was on relief—from the weather. And glad to be!

Because the weather has been on every mind all summer long. It's had everybody by the

throat—gasping, here in this Hades-by-the-Hudson. Never in history has so much humanity been wedded to so much humidity, nor longed so hard for a divorce.

The month of July was the hottest ever recorded here, but the heat started long before that. Since the first of January the weather bureau reports that metropolitan New York has a temperature excess of 1,043 degrees above normal.

When you have 1,043 degrees above normal, there are only two things the average citizen can do about them. That is to feel them—and to complain about them.

The heat wave has had more impact on Mr. New Yorker than the ten-cent subway fare. But even the Chamber of Commerce is tired of admitting that "we have more of everything than anybody—including more weather."

Out in Phoenix, Ariz., or Kansas City, Mo., boastful denizens sometimes prove how hot it gets there by frying an egg on the street. That is unnecessary braggadocio here. You simply break the egg on your forehead, and by the time it rolls down to your mouth it has been poached in the perspiration.

The streets have been so searing that even the pigeons refuse to land in them until two hours after sundown. There is a movement underway to get the ASPCA to equip them with sandals.

The weather has played all kinds of strange pranks on people. In the ordinary television program you see two of everything, even if you have 20-20 vision. This is normal, and the second figure is known as the "ghost." But in the current heat wave every character on a television program looks like the Dionne quintuplets.

At the beach you can't see the sands for people. The refrigerated movie palaces have done a thriving business. Some folks have simply moved into them for the duration.

Well, there's a mass of cool air from Canada here now, the most welcome thing that's come to town since Jenny Lind.

And Mayor Bill O'Dwyer had better keep it here—or the democrats are going to have a tough election in autumn.

Easy—if You Can Do It!

Chicago (AP)—Police surveyed the car that had just been hit by a train. It was badly battered. They scratched their heads and looked at Albert Short, 22, the driver.

"How'd you ever get out of there?" they asked him. "Oh, that was easy," he said. "I just rolled up like a basketball and went through a window. You see, I'm a professional India rubber man."

COMMENTATOR IGNORED WARNING

Bill Didn't 'Shut Up' In His Last Broadcast

By WILLIAM C. BARNARD

Alice, Tex., Aug. 2 (AP)—"The word has been passed to me that I better shut up, or else!" W. H. (Bill) Mason said in his last broadcast.

The text of the final program was released today by the son of the slain radio commentator. Burt Mason, 22, gave the documentation—your husband is in danger."

According to the text of the final broadcast, Mason was sharply critical of Sheriff Sain.

Friday night raiders armed with shotguns fired eight shots at the darkened and deserted establishment. "I am going to take the gloves off today in the prostitution situation and start swinging," Mason said in the last broadcast.

"A woman telephoned my mother," Mason said, "and told her I just overheard a conver-