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4— Salem, Oregon, Thursday, October 13, 1949

Too Pink for Democrats

President Truman suffered a major political defeat when the senate rejected his nomination of Leland Olds to a third term on the Federal Power Commission by a vote of 50 to 13. This despite the fact that the executive and national democratic chairman, William H. Bogle, Jr., had sent a precedent by waging a vigorous "party discipline" campaign to pressure senators into voting for Olds.

It is something new for a president to try openly to coerce senators into ratifying a nomination. The pressure campaign boomeranged. Some 21 democrats joined 32 republicans in voting against Olds. Voting for him were 13 democrats and 2 republicans, Senators William Langer (N.D.), and Wayne Morse (Ore.).

During the hectic senate debate that preceded the vote, Olds' critics denounced him as a left-winger with "foreign ideologies." His supporters, on the other hand, hailed him as a fearless anti-communist public servant who had aroused the enmity of influential power interests.

Senator Edwin C. Johnson of Colorado called Olds "a warped, tyrannical, mischievous, egotistical chameleon whose predominant color is pink."

His defenders pictured him as a devoted public servant trying to protect consumers by effective utility regulation.

The special senate committee voted unanimously against Olds, and the full commerce committee voted 10 to 2 against him. This caused the president to declare the appointment the "party line and a test of loyalty to the party." At last week's press conference he defended his action and attributed the opposition to Olds to "powerful corporations subject to regulation by the commission, which had not been pleased by Mr. Olds. But the committee senators stated that representatives of the corporations under regulation neither asked to be heard nor were heard, although there was a large lobby in Olds' behalf.

The senators were shocked by the economic views expressed by Olds when editor of the Federated Labor Press in the latter '20s, which reflected the ideology of the communist party line. Space forbids the reprinting of the many Olds statements, but the following are samples of them all:

"Lenin knew what would take the place of political partyism when he made his bid for power in Russia with the slogan all power to the Soviets. . . . That change is coming in America. Upon labor's advance preparation will depend its share in the new apportionment of authority."—Leland Olds, Federated Press, November 11, 1923.

"To millions of workers slaving throughout the world to provide the tribute enacted by the American dollar empire the Fourth of July will loom as anything but the birthday of liberty. They will view it as the day set apart by the world's greatest exploiters to glorify their rise to power."—Leland Olds, Federated Press, Daily Worker, July 5, 1928.

"Capitalism in the United States is rapidly passing into the stage which has marked the decay of many earlier social orders, the stage in which a dominant owning class ceases to perform a function in the business of society. . . . The owners exist only, a privileged class of parasites whose idleness and dissipation become an increasing stench in the nostrils of the people."—Leland Olds, Federated Press, January 24, 1929, P. 1.

The FPC, like most of federal commissions, is an administrative and judicial body, has frequently usurped legislative functions by its decrees. Its members should be just, impartial, unprejudiced and honest, not devious players of politics intent only on making the country over according to foreign ideologies of statism.

Olds' rejection marks the third time this session the senate has rejected a Truman appointee for a key job. The president previously had failed to get approval of Mon C. Wallgren to head the National Security Resources board, and that of Carl A. Ilgenfritz to head the Munitions board.

Salem Gets 'Safe' Rating

From Salem, the atom-bomb race between the United States and Russia can seem so remote. Perhaps it is the distance of Oregon's capital from Washington, D.C., and from Russia that tends to give a false feeling of remoteness.

But in a list of 92 atom-bomb targets for Russia in the United States is Portland. The city to the north is listed as the target in Oregon by U.S. News and World Report if the Soviet sends one-way suicide missions of B-29s. U.S. airplanners estimate that the Russians can stretch the range of their B-29s to 4500 or even 5000 miles, the magazine reports.

In looking at any atom-bomb threat, the U.S. News goes on to note that "tremors from the bomb . . . are to be real, measurable, maybe of cumulative effect. They will help to determine how the government spends its money, where basic industries locate new plants, how cities expand, where people build their homes."

Cities of over 100,000 population are classed as vulnerable to attack in event war should come. In other words, people in the cities, for the first time in this nation's history, are confronted with a definite element of danger in another war.

A strange new consideration even enters the gradual idea of decentralization which was originally prompted by crowded cities. "Now, decentralization is described by officials as 'life and property insurance in the atomic age.'"

In this atomic world it is not inconceivable that some atomic planning board might be brought into being to suggest to industries where the most advantageous locations for the future might be in the nation.

In the atomic age, Salem presently rates a "safe" label. It is an odd label—but these are odd times.

Canine Version of Carrie Nation?

Chicago (AP)—A dog walked into a North Chicago tavern, bit Stanley Gimbara, who was drinking a beer, and then walked out.

A short time later, the same dog walked into another tavern, bit Louis Koziol similarly engaged and walked out. In a third tavern, the dog repeated the job on Max Brewer. Gimbara, Koziol and Brewer said they didn't know why. They said the dog was a complete stranger.

BY BECK

Life's Big Moment



SIPS FOR SUPPER

Down at Last

By DON UPJOHN

It seems our enduring, iron-man ex-governor Os West who has lived unperturbed through all kinds of excitement, political battles, legislative frays, municipal, state and county battles, always in a scrap with somebody or something, but never with a windmill, has been caught up with at last. In a note to our favorite paper he writes: "There has been too much trouble and excitement for a weak heart. . . . recalls, Russian bombs, pineapple barges, our mayor's new hat, horses on Senator Morse and Judge Douglas and big league ball-games—so, my ailment has developed into the heaves and I have been put to bed with an oxygen tank." We can remember the time when Os stirred up more "trouble and excitement" in a week all by himself than all of the matters he refers to in his note, and never batted an eye. But he was younger in those days and the excitement he stirred up was his meat, drink, vitamin pills and his oxygen tank, as well. But we bet it won't be long before he's up and coming again ready for all takers.

The Downtrodden Male

It's O.K. for cows, heifers and steers to sun at large in Benton county. But the bulls can't do it. Attorney General George Neuner ruled today that the law against livestock running at large in Benton county applies only to the male bovines. The opinion was for District Attorney Robert Mix of Benton county.

The Victorious Female

Silverton—Bill Rue was starting out deer hunting when his wife Tee, commented she felt lucky and wanted to go along. She did. Bill saw the first deer on a mountainside on their Abiqua-McLaughlin farm, took a shot and missed. Mrs. Bill sighted the next one, a young forked horn. She took a shot and didn't miss. They dragged the deer home, cut it up for the deep freeze before 11 o'clock in the morning and in a few minutes Mrs. Rue was on her way to the Abiqua Ladies club noon luncheon and arrived on time. She's the first lady nimrod to get her deer so far reported here.

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

British Bobbies Seek To Retain Hanging Penalty

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

London's policemen (better known as "Bobbies"), who ordinarily are unarmed except for truncheons, have told a royal commission that the hanging penalty for murder should be retained.

They feel that this is their best protection from desperate

used to have terrific arguments over the rights of the unarmed burglar.

My man maintained that it wasn't sporting for a householder to shoot an unarmed intruder—something like potting a sitting bird, what?

Bobbies handle all situations with studied calm, which more often than not is mixed with a sense of humor which bridges many rough places and engenders respect.

They are the law.

GOBBLERS FOR 48 GOVERNORS

Gene Malecki to Escort Oregon Turkey to Turkey

By WILLIAM WARREN

McMinnville, Ore., Oct. 13 (AP)—Thanksgiving day turkey will be "on the house" for governors of all the 48 states from McMinnville, the town toting a turkey to Turkey with an invitation to that republic's President Ismet Inonu to join us in observance of Thanksgiving.

And, of course, there'll also be a bird for President Harry Truman.

The men responsible for the 8th annual Pacific coast turkey exhibit, to be held here Nov. 15-18, decided to invite President Truman and the 48 governors to join President Inonu, No. 1 Thanksgiving Day "guest observer," in celebration of the great American holiday. A sort of international goodwill feast, dark meat and white meat compliments of McMinnville.

So Nov. 19, the day after the turkey show here closes, planes will launch a mass turkey flight from McMinnville airport to the capitals of all the 48 states, to Washington, D.C.—and to Istanbul.

President Inonu, who already has said he will be "very pleased" to receive the turkey, will get the grand champion broad breasted bronze—that's I wrote a book with him about the London underworld, and we

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Senate Leader Lucas Blasts Vice President Barkley

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—It has been kept out of the papers, but sparks have been flying between two of President Truman's most potent congressional leaders—Vice President Barkley and Majority Leader Scott Lucas of Illinois.

Things came to a head when the vice president, called upon to settle a tie, voted for rigid 90 percent support of parity farm prices which the administration opposed.

Senator Lucas, faced with defeat, lashed out at Barkley privately in language unprintable in a family newspaper.

"What does Barkley know about farming?" stormed the democratic senate leader. "He has a few tobacco farms down in Kentucky, but he knows nothing about the agricultural problems of the great west."

Lucas, whose nerves are frazzled after the long and thankless job of riding herd on rebellious senators, further accused Barkley of torpedoing the farm program and embarrassing him personally.

"Who ever heard of anyone explaining his vote?" scorching Lucas, referring to the fact that the vice president, in breaking the tie, had explained that he had campaigned for parity price support. "It's unheard of in the history of the senate."

Barkley was not present during this tirade, which was meant for private ears. But word of it got back to him and it won't help relations between the two men who are supposed to guide the Truman program through the senate.

UNHAPPY ADMIRAL

Unhappiest admiral in the navy today is probably Louis Denfeld, chief of naval operations, one of the square shooters ever to command a battle wagon.

Denfeld is right in the middle of the navy-air force battle, a battle which he did not start. Now that it's started, he is publicly siding with his brother admirals. But before it started, he expressed the private view that the navy could better use more money for submarines and smaller airplane carriers, rather than putting all its eggs in the giant experimental airplane carrier which has now become the war cry of the admirals.

Since then, some admirals have tried to cold-shoulder Denfeld, accused him of transferring Adm. Arthur Radford out to the Pacific because he had been a contender for Denfeld's job—an accusation completely untrue.

Rows like the present flare-up are not unusual in the navy, and the situation between Admirals Radford and Denfeld is not unlike a similar navy fracas which harvested just as many headlines back in the Hoover administration. It illustrates the unfortunate fact that the admirals frequently put their judgment ahead of their commander-in-chief.

At that time, the admirals, who always worship bigness, were bent on building a lot of 10,000 ton, 8-inch-gun cruisers, and refused to go along with Secretary of State Stimson on a treaty of limitation. Spearhead of the navy attack against Stimson was salty Adm. Hilary Jones—the Admiral Radford of his day.

But siding with Stimson, and holding the same chief of naval operations job which Admiral Denfeld occupies today, was Adm. William V. Pratt. Pratt believed that smaller cruisers with 6-inch guns could fire faster, and were more effective at close range or at night.

But because he held these views Pratt was almost ostracized from the navy. For a time his fellow admirals would not speak to him. And when he retired as chief of naval operations, almost no one was on hand to see him depart.

As today, the admirals arranged a series of "leaks," and threatened the resignation of Admiral Jones. As today also, various congressmen took up the cudgels and debated the pros and cons of the 8-inch-gun and 6-inch-gun cruiser—much to the delight of the Japanese and British navies.

Upshot of it all was that when five of the big 8-inch-gun cruisers came off the ways, they had cracked stern-posts—one of the most important parts of the ship, for on it hangs the rudder. Not only did the stern-posts have to be replaced at a cost of \$150,000—paid by the taxpayer—but all the new cruisers rolled so badly it interfered with gunfire.

But it was not until the battle of the Graf Spee that Admiral Pratt, whose later years were made miserable by his fellow admirals, was completely vindicated. In this famed battle off the river Plate, the British navy with small, fast-moving 6-inch-gun cruisers was completely victorious over the 10,000-ton German cruiser carrying 8-inch guns.

What Admiral Pratt had argued in the face of almost every other admiral about the speed and mobility of the small cruiser, was proved right.

And the fact that Pratt and Secretary Stimson forced the navy into building some fast 6-inch gun cruisers turned out to be the navy's salvation when it came to patrolling the vast south Pacific during the recent war.

MYSTERIOUS MARAGON  
Jack O'Brien, director of information for the office of housing expediter, got a phone call some time ago from a man with a thick accent who said:

"This is Drew Pearson calling, and I want to know why Colonel James Hunt spends so much time around your office? If you're not careful I'm going to write a story about it. You'd better get rid of that fellow Hunt."

The alleged "Drew Pearson" referred to "five-percenter" James Hunt, the friend of General Harry Vaughan, and supposedly also the friend of the mysterious John Maragon.

However, Jack O'Brien, being reasonably familiar with the voice of this columnist, recognized the thick accent to be that of Maragon, himself. Posing as this columnist, Maragon was trying to scare the housing expediter's office away from Hunt in order to leave a clear field for himself.

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BY GUILD

Wizard of Odds



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

A World of Free Matches But Lighter Business Sparks

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—In a world of free matches, Americans are working out \$50,000,000 annually for gadgets to light their cigarettes.

The first World War popularized the wrist watch. And what that war did for the wrist watch, the second World War has done for the cigarette lighter.

"Now the flint business alone is bigger than the entire lighter industry 15 years ago," said Alfred R. Nathan, vice president of the Ronson Art Metal Works, Inc.

The Ronson company—the equivalent of General Motors in its field—soon will market its 35,000,000th lighter.

It was founded 56 years ago by the late Louis V. Aronson, a metallurgical engineer who put the voice in the mama doll, Aronson, who died in 1940, was a pink-cheeked man with a passion for maroon—he even wore maroon shirts.

"Oddly, as a young man he once won a \$5,000 prize from the Belgian government for developing a safety match," Nathan recalled.

Repenting of this, Aronson turned to the mechanical lighter. His biggest contribution was a push-button invention that brought the light to life with the pressure of a finger. It made possible so much money he could play around with kings. He even bought a 70-foot yacht so he

could sail to see them. One of Nathan's present vice presidential duties is the assembling of a museum of mechanical lighters.

"In the early years they put lighters in everything from sword canes to baby shoes cast in bronze," he said.

This Rococo period is dying out. The Ronson Company, for example, has cut down its number of models from 1,000 to about 100.

In his museum collections are a number sent by grateful soldiers who said the lighters saved their lives by stopping flak, shell fragments or bullets. One soldier scratched his will on his lighter. "I leave everything to Brother Jim," and Nathan said the will was held valid.

Why should anyone fork out \$6 to \$5,000 (a custom built, jewel encrusted job) for a lighter, when nearly every drug store now offers giveaway matches?

"We don't want to make any odious comparisons," remarked Nathan, indicating the match industry couldn't understand that one either.

"But people like to be modern. A lighter is a modern, and people feel less awkward using pal around with kings. He even bought a 70-foot yacht so he

That's their belief they do. matches.

OPEN FORUM

Why Not Save Old Court House?

To the Editor: Salem was at one time proud of six unusually beautiful buildings: The old state house, court house, First Methodist church, Waller hall, Presbyterian church and Evangelical church.

One is gone, and three more are slated for destruction in the name of progress.

Why not fireproof the old building?

MRS. LEWIS JUDSON  
1000 Judson St., Salem

How can I leave my family a deed...not a debt?



Your family will need a home that is paid for—not a mortgage which must be paid off. At very low cost you can have a plan that will assure your family a home free of debt. Ask the PRUDENTIAL man in your

community about the new "Dollar Guide." It will help you decide for yourself how much insurance you actually should have to provide for mortgage retirement and other family needs.

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