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Salem, Oregon, Wednesday, November 2, 1949

Sherman to Take Over an 'Unhappy Ship'

From all indications, the choice of Admiral Forrest Sherman as good as one as could be made, under the circumstances, for the chief of naval operations. In picking Sherman, Truman was putting into the number one job in the naval service a man who has long fought for unification. In fact, Sherman helped draft the unification act. Furthermore, the admiral who wears the wings of naval aviation is alert and probably as keen an officer as to be found in the navy.

However, that doesn't change the circumstances attending the disgraceful handling of the Denfeld case. The ousting of Admiral Denfeld as chief of naval operations was no tribute to the administration's intelligence or intentions. From all appearances, Denfeld had still not been told officially he was being fired except when he and Sherman went together Tuesday into the secretary of the navy's office. In fact, Denfeld's first knowledge of being dumped was when his aide read out Secretary of the Navy Matthew's statement to that effect on a news association wire last week.

Congressman Norblad from this district sat in on the hearings of the house committee on armed services, in his position as a member of the committee. He said Denfeld's removal was absolutely contrary to the promises made by the services to the committee that no disciplinary action would be taken for statements made. Norblad's fears of the effect of the ousting of Denfeld would seem to have basis. Norblad felt high officers would be afraid in the future to speak honest opinions because of the threat of reprisals.

As Norblad said: "If that happens, we will get only guarded opinions in the future, cleared through Secretary of Defense Johnson. That sort of thing won't do us any good. We might as well have Johnson speak and let it go at that."

Johnson has given every reason to believe he will try to bully the services into doing what he thinks ought to be done. And Truman, being strong for personal friends, should be counted on to go along with whatever Johnson tries to drive through.

That would point toward the building of a Johnson-dominated unification system. A tight control over the services by a man like Johnson could stifle service expression, such as Denfeld was called on by congress to make. Johnson can go his bullying way and depend on his pal, Truman, to back him up. But Johnson refuses to back up one of his own men, Denfeld. And congress' need for information will suffer as a result.

So Admiral Sherman moves into an unhealthy situation in the navy command, fostered by the shameful handling of his predecessor. If Sherman can bring order out of the dissatisfaction in the navy, it will be a tribute to him—not to Johnson or Secretary of the Navy Matthews.

Presidential Bee Stings Johnson?

The United States News of Washington, D.C., features the candidacy of Defense Secretary Louis Johnson for the democratic nomination for the presidency in 1952. It points to economy cuts in his department, speeches here and there, and other activities as a bid for 1952 as Mr. Truman hasn't said "yes" or "no" to a re-election campaign, but Johnson is getting ready in case the president refuses. Says the News:

"Insiders now are accepting Louis A. Johnson, the secretary of defense, as an active candidate for the democratic presidential nomination in 1952. Mr. Johnson is said by party leaders to be acting as if convinced that President Truman will not try to win renomination himself. And the job that Mr. Johnson holds is regarded by party leaders as one that provides a perfect springboard for a man with ambition."

Among recent speeches of Johnson are those before the American Federation of Labor convention at St. Paul, a dedication speech to the Jews at Yeshiva university, New York City, a commencement speech at Creighton university (Catholic) at Omaha paying tribute to the Jesuits, a speech to the United States Chamber of Commerce and conferences with newspaper editors, theater owners and veterans groups.

As secretary of defense, next to the president, Johnson is the most powerful man in Washington, controls more jobs and spends more money and his name is in the headlines constantly as a target for abuse or praise. He directs the expenditure of \$15 billion a year, a third of the budget, has 800,000 civil employees, two-fifths of all federal employees.

However, there is no sign that Mr. Truman intends to retire and all his actions point the other way. He is still playing politics for votes in every issue and since his reelection, power has gone to his head. Johnson might as well forget it.

Presidential Political Finance

President Truman's October report of the nation's financial condition acknowledges that he had over-estimated tax revenue in his budget message of last January and under-estimated expenditures for the current fiscal year.

Mr. Truman stated that the peacetime deficit on next June 30 will be \$5.5 billion, against his estimate of \$900 million, a miss of \$4.6 billion. His estimate of \$41 billion revenue was revised downward to \$38 billion, a miss of \$3 billion. The January spending estimate was \$41.9 billion, his present estimate was \$43.5 billion, a miss of \$1.6 billion.

Direct and indirect subsidies hit the treasury hard. These subsidies included \$1.4 billion to support farm produce prices, \$1.3 billion to support the market for second mortgages on housing and the always substantial postal deficit. Veterans' benefits also were hiked, \$1.9 billion more than had been foreseen for those first two items.

The president laid responsibility for about \$3 billion of unforeseen spending on congress, but acknowledged that congress had saved nearly \$1 billion by refusing to enact his universal military training and aid-to-education projects. There was also an unknown number of billions saved by rejection of compulsory prepaid medical, hospital and other welfare services.

This failure to economize on both the part of the president and congress, with record peace time tax receipts forcing deficit expenditures is responsible for Mr. Truman's campaign to boost taxes by \$5 billion which he virtually admits now would not balance the budget. Moreover, high taxation has already reached the point of diminishing returns and his estimates have proven not worth the paper written on. It also indicates the complete collapse of the economy drive under political pressure.

BY BECK

Parental Problems



SIPS FOR SUPPER Slick Slim

BY DON UPJOHN
Many a man has become famous in history by overpowering wild beasts with his hands, strangling serpents, et cetera, and occasionally word is had of some fleet-footed lad who chases a jackrabbit and retrieves it with his hands. But it remained for our old friend Slim Dowd, the well-known printer who looks like Edgar Allen Poe, to make the prize catch of the year, namely a huge China pheasant cock. He was hunting the other day near Lebanon with Ben Pade with Ben Pade when Slim told Ben to stop the car. He slipped out of the car, over a fence with Ben following, made his way through a little brush and then laid down his gun. Suddenly Slim stooped over and came up out of a patch of grass with the China pheasant rooster firmly grasped in his hands. The rooster put up a pretty bitter fight and did a bit of scratching but didn't make his getaway. Ben Pade vouches for this tall tale as the truth and who could doubt Ben?

Deputy Sheriff John Harger has come up at last with his new clackers, genuine navy ones. John was for 24 years in active service in the navy before taking over his present deputy's job and the boys have done an artistic piece of work on his clackers. Not only that, he demonstrated just how tough a guy has to be to spend 24 years in the navy. He got his clackers yesterday afternoon and last night enjoyed a hearty dinner of fried chicken. But to give a little additional proof he is slated this evening for a dinner of elk steak. "Those clackers," said John, "went through that fried chicken just as if it was pumpkin pie and they'll make mince-meat of that elk." That's the kind of a rugged guy our FT & BA is proud to make in its ranks.

As to the FT & BA we have another membership card to sign for Weldon Hattberg, manager of a Richfield service station at Silverton and one of the youngest of our fast growing Silverton chapter to have both uppers and lowers out for full membership. Weldon is an active Legionnaire World War II veteran and is papa of two fine young lads.

Pup Saves Child From Death

Macon, Ga., Nov. 2 (AP)—Four-year-old Patricia Aarons clutched her puppy in her arms when she toppled out of an upper story window of her home and fell 40 feet to the ground. The child suffered only scratches and bruises. She landed on the puppy, which was crushed to death. Doctors said Patricia would have been killed or seriously injured if she hadn't been holding the dog.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER A Woman for President? Hal's Got His Ideas on It

BY HAL BOYLE
New York (AP)—There is a hubbub on the horizon over whether America should elect a lady president.

The mere suggestion of an elected female boss in the White House has stirred a lot of anguished male yawning, but a "Madam President" is as inevitable for the United States as the return of short skirts.

This is because power tends to move in a single direction, unless changed by rebellion or revolution. And for 100 years real power in this country has moved steadily from men to women—in every field.

This trend could be reversed only by a mass male revolt—and today there isn't enough insurrection of this kind left in American men to quell a girl's basketball team from Guatemala.

Today women own most of America, and therefore it is high time they took over the responsibility of running it. They have ducked their duty long enough.

It is for that reason that this poor man's philosopher pledges himself to cast a ballot for the first lady to head a national major party ticket. Be she democrat or republican, she gets my vote—and as many more as I can stuff in the box.

A recent Gallup poll showed public sentiment has changed sharply on the question. It found 48 per cent of the voters were willing to support a qualified lady presidential candidate, whereas in 1937 only 33 per cent would pledge themselves to such a precedent-shattering step.

Men are fools to oppose the idea of a woman president. Instead of opposing it, they should demand it. Once and for all it would end the feminine delusion that the mess the world's in is strictly man-made. Let's dwell a while in a political stew stirred by the dainty hand of woman.

It'll be a change anyway. The truth is, of course, that the globe's troubles arise because

people are people, not because the leaders wear a blouse or a vest. But let's let the girls find this hard fact out for themselves.

Only a false sense of pride has caused men to take over the reins of power and shorten their lives with worry.

Nature meant men to be gay, careless, thoughtless children of the sun. Nature meant women to work, plod and worry, and gave them a greater vitality for these tasks.

Why not insist then that they run government and industry? Let them enjoy the wrinkles and coronary thrombosis that go with care and authority.

Senator Margaret Chase Smith of Maine has predicted the republicans will win in 1952 if they name a woman on the ticket. But I am against any plan to begin feminine rule by nominating a woman for vice president. For if elected, she would preside over the U. S. senate, and I would spare the good, gray—and bald—heads of that august body this ignominy.

If we're going to go about it in earnest, then for the sake of old sentiment let's first retire these fine old male warriors and elect an all-girl senate.

But the proper thing to do is to elect a woman president straightaway—on a clear-cut issue of lady rule.

I wouldn't mind if my own wife were the first winning candidate. This is not so much because I could latch on to part of her \$100,000 salary—or that she would have \$50,000 a year in tax-free pin money.

No, it's because of this possibility: when an acquaintance said, "who was that lady I saw you out with last night?" I could reply: "That wasn't no lady—that was your president!"

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Navy's Watchdog Unit Saves Taxpayers Thousands in Funds

BY DREW PEARSON
Washington—While certain admirals were attracting the national spotlight with broadsides of criticism on Capitol Hill, another navy unit was patriotically retrieving thousands of dollars for the taxpayers without attracting any attention at all.

This unspectacular nose-to-the-grindstone outfit was the Pittsburgh office of the supervising inspector of naval material.

With headaches instead of headlines for a reward, this watchdog unit went through navy contracts looking for bugs.

As a result, enough bugs were combed out of the navy's contract with the Canonsburg Steel and Iron company to reverse the company's claim for \$1,346,306. Instead of paying Canonsburg, the navy collected \$574,157.

In another case, the admirals had gloated over purchasing \$1,131,188 worth of material from the Cooper-Bessemer corporation at the bargain scrap price of \$63,251. The watchdog unit discovered, however, that this wasn't such a bargain after all. For, believe it or not, the navy had bought its own material, already paid for by the navy.

But, thanks again to the watchdog unit, Westinghouse Electric corporation was ordered to shell out an additional \$18,724 for equipment that it had bought from the navy for 2 percent of the original cost.

The navy unit also cracked down on the company owned by Perle Mesta, U.S. minister to Luxembourg and famed dinner hostess to President Truman. The Mesta Machine company had tried to charge the navy \$36,000 for maintaining a navy plant, but the watchdog unit took exception to a few items, including 100 percent for overhead, and cut the bill down to \$22,400.

When the bureau of yards and docks tried to give away a navy building erected on the property of the National Tube company, the watchdog unit stepped in and finally sold the building for \$24,800.

In another instance, navy-owned electric furnaces and industrial equipment were lying idle. So the watchdog unit got busy and leased this equipment to the Allegheny Ludlum Steel corporation for \$709,000.

Another company, the Elliott company, tried to buy a navy office building for \$38,100. Just as the contract was about to be signed, the watchdog unit moved in with its inspectors and adding machines. As a result of a more careful appraisal, Elliott company had to pay \$60,725.

NOTE—The man in charge of the navy unit which is doing such a good job of saving the taxpayers' money is Capt. M. C. Barrett. His chief assistants are Comdrs. P. Page and J. K. Kennedy.

TRUMAN'S WAISTLINE
Though the president jokes about his expanding waistline, actually he watches his diet carefully.

The other day at lunch, Truman ate two pieces of home-cured country Missouri ham—an unusually large portion of meat for him. The dessert was ice cream and chocolate cake. Looking at the cake wistfully, Truman turned timidly to Brig. Gen. Wallace Graham, White House physician, and asked:

"Doc, can I have a piece of that good chocolate cake?"

"No, sir," replied Dr. Graham sternly, "you can't, Mr. President."

"That's all I wanted to hear," retorted the president as he boldly reached for a big piece of cake.

"I'll see you at 5 o'clock," warned the White House physician.

"Well, make up your minds," replied Lynch. "You may as well realize that you can't ride the same any longer."

When McAndless protested that the life insurance firms were not prepared for such a sudden blow at their reserve funds, and that retroactive payments would endanger the stability of a number of companies, Lynch shot back:

"Why, you've been put on notice as long as two years ago, when you first discussed your exemptions with the treasury department. You've known all along that you would have to make good on these unpaid taxes some day. So you can't accuse the congress of dealing with you arbitrarily."

McAndless and colleagues finally suggested that 1947 and 1948 taxes be written off with the 1949 and 1950 taxes paid—if the taxable floor in the Doughton bill was raised from 92 to 95 percent of investment income. Lynch flatly rejected this, however, and gave the insurance executives until Tuesday to make up their minds on his two-way proposal.

Prisoners' Choice for a Song
Deer Lodge, Mont. (AP)—When violinist David Rubinoff played recently for prisoners at the Montana state penitentiary, one of the popular request numbers was: "Don't Fence Me In."

'SLIGHT' ADJUSTMENTS NEEDED 158 Miles on Gallon of Gas? But Is It Really Worth It?

Wood River, Ill. (AP)—It's possible to get 158 miles on each gallon of gasoline you put in the family chariot.

Whether you figure it's worth what you have to go through is another matter.

R. G. Greenshields, director of the Shell Oil Co. research laboratory here, said the laboratory each year stages a "mileage marathon for engineers." This year it was won by a modified 1924 model which got 158 miles to the gallon.

Toward that goal, the gear ratio has to be changed from 6-1 to 10-1 and the tire pressure increased from the normal 32 to 35 pounds to 110 pounds.

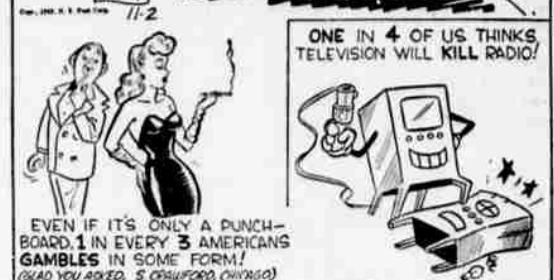
That, with the use of a light lubricant, will enable a motorist to get 45 miles per gallon.

The compression has to be raised as high as possible, which entails lowering the valve seats in the engine block. With that, the motorist will get 49 miles to the gallon.

The next step is to strip the

BY GUILD

Wizard of Odds



McKENZIE'S COLUMN

British House of Commons Further Curbs the Lords

BY DeWITT MacKENZIE
(Britain Foreign Affairs Analyst)
Britain's house of commons Monday passed a bill which further curbs the powers of the august house of lords, thereby gaining another notable victory in the generation-old fight between the elected representatives of "the people" and the ermine-robed nobility.

This measure restricts the lords from holding up for more than one year any legislation passed by commons. Heretofore, the lords could delay commons measures for two years.

That in itself is a notable victory for commons, but it cuts deeper than that. It opens the way for final passage of the commons bill nationalizing England's huge steel industry.

The preponderantly conservative lords had agreed reluctantly to lesser measures for state ownership, but had refused to accept the steel program, which represented the high-point in the socialist program of nationalization.

Now they will have it rammed down their throats, and the government will be able to achieve this before its five-year term ends next July.

It's interesting to note that there was one other way in which Prime Minister Attlee could have beaten the lords on this steel legislation if necessary, although it would have been an extreme measure.

He could have followed the precedent set by the late Prime

Minister Herbert Asquith back in 1911. This was in connection with an act which would bar the lords from interfering with any finance bill in commons.

The house of lords was adamant in its refusal to make any such concession. Thereupon, Asquith issued an ultimatum that either the lords would agree or he would call upon the king to create enough new lords to insure acceptance in the upper house. The lords then surrendered, for the prime minister could have done exactly as he threatened.

It is quite unlikely that the king would refuse such a request by the head of government.

A prime minister, by the way, cannot be a member of the upper house. Only a member of commons can hold that position. Along that line, the king himself cannot enter the house of commons without the consent of the house.

As I recall it, that rule was laid down after Charles I entered commons and arrested five members.

These days when a message from the throne is brought to commons, it is carried by a dignitary known as the black rod who knocks respectfully at the doors to the house and begs for admission as agent of his majesty.

How Much Is \$42 Billion?

Minneapolis (AP)—With U. S. government expenditures estimated at \$42,000,000,000 for the fiscal year 1949-50, the question arises, just how much \$42,000,000,000 really amounts to in understandable terms.

The family economics bureau of Northwestern National Life Insurance Co. estimates it would make a stack of \$10 bills 240 miles high.

It would equal the combined wages of 1,000,000 manufacturing workers at present average wage rates, for 15 years.

It is a third greater than the total cash receipts for all the produce of America's 6,000,000 farms in 1948.

It is slightly more than the U. S. government spent in World War I.

It is slightly more than the U. S. government spent in the 142-year period from 1776 through the fiscal year of 1917-18, inclusive.

It is more than one-sixth of our present total national income.

It is \$700 per American worker. It is \$1,050 per American family. Spending \$42,000,000,000 in a year means spending \$80,000 a minute for 24 hours a day for seven days a week for 52 weeks.

Advertisement for Arden Flavor Fresh Ice Cream, featuring an illustration of a child and text: 'So delicious! So tempting Arden "Flavor-Fresh" ice cream... the choice of millions... folks who know and demand good ice cream. Ask for it by name... AT YOUR NEAREST ARDEN DEALER'