

No Budget Problems for Prince Rainier of Monaco

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS

Washington, Dec. 6 (AP)—I'll bet Treasury Secretary John W. Snyder wishes he could step into the shoes of Prince Rainier of Monaco.

The prince, who has just succeeded his grandfather as sovereign of the land that boasts the fabulous Monte Carlo Casino, has no budget problems.

Snyder has nothing but budget problems.

The secretary, who knows a lot about money and banking, has been up on Capitol Hill spilling out his troubles. He says the government will wind up spending something like \$43,500,000,000 this fiscal year. At the same time, Uncle Sam's going to gather in only \$38,000,000,000. That'll leave Snyder with the job of writing checks for about \$5,500,000,000 which he hasn't got, and us taxpayers haven't either.

Prince Rainier, who is only 26, is snickering while he can. The job of making ends meet is no job at all for him. He rules over something like 370 acres, which comprise his entire state.

According to information in the files of the National Geographic Society, Monaco gets almost every cent it needs from taxes on cigarettes and matches, from the sale of postage stamps to foreign dealers and from the concession fees of gambling tables at Monte Carlo.

You'd think the residents of Monaco get most of this revenue back, but actually they don't. Prince Rainier really rules over some 22,000 people. Only about one-sixth of them, however, are citizens.

The original planners of the state fixed that. Only those families who can show and prove four generations of residence can lay claim as citizens. That cuts out a lot of people.

But, brother! Once you are a citizen of the Utopian state, the benefits are worth sticking around for. You have no income tax to pay, and you never have to worry about going to war for citizens never are conscripted.

If you don't belong, in Monaco, you don't belong.

Non-citizens and visitors, who kick up the kitty at Monte Carlo, pay the taxes. Their money goes into a fund which takes care of upkeep for the principality's exotic gardens and the world-famed oceanographic museum, which was opened almost 40 years ago.

The museum is a thing of rare beauty, and pays its way—as you know, if you've ever been there and paid the fee to see it.

The Monte Carlo Casino is, of course, something special in its own right. It's about to finish its ninth decade.

Oddly, it's operated by an outfit which uses the name of the "Sea Bathers" and Foreigners' Club of Monaco, Inc."

Also oddly, the Casino is seeing thin times right now—some of the few since the first wheel was turned at the roulette in the long ago.

Some think it might be a sign of the times. The Casino is beginning to cater to us common folk—instead of millionaires. Its even adding dice tables.

At any rate, Prince Rainier, who is just now taking over the reins of the tiny state, isn't worried. If the budget doesn't balance, he knows how to balance it. Up the tax on cigarettes and matches.

Not that this is an open letter to Mr. Snyder!

PTA Serving Dinner

Buena Vista—The Buena Vista Parent Teachers association will serve a Bar-B-Q dinner Friday in the Buena Vista Community hall. Dinner will be served between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. A home talent program will follow the dinner. Tickets are being sold by members of the PTA.

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Much Building Planned for '50

Compared with other record-breaking years since the end of World War II there is no big spurge in building construction in Salem just now. But Salem is just aggressive enough that it is not lagging behind other communities and is ahead of most of them.

As far as employment is concerned, building construction of various kinds is going to be the major factor in keeping men busy in Salem and community during the next year.

The top project will, of course, be the Detroit dam, where a thousand or more men will be at work around mid-year.

In Salem will be several major projects. These include the Marion street bridge under the Baldoock plan, to cost about \$1,500,000, on which a start should be made during the year. Also there is the Marion county courthouse on which a start might be made in mid-summer, possibly July.

There is the state highway building for the state highway department, for which the contract has been let and excavation started. The building will cost in excess of a million and a half dollars.

A \$1,000,000 project is the Lee apartments to be built by Victor N. Jones & Associates of Seattle at North Winter and Marion. It will have 101 living units.

A slightly larger apartment



Held By Chinese Communists—Marine Master Sgt. Elmer Bender of Cincinnati, Ohio, (left) and Navy Chief Electrician William C. Smith of Long Beach, Calif., have been held for more than a year by Chinese Communists. In Washington Secretary of State Acheson said Americans are "thoroughly indignant" over the "inhumane" detention of the two men. (AP Wirephoto.)

The electric power went off early in the typhoon so there were no lights, radio, cooking or hot water.

Boje reported that the wind flattened a number of warehouses, scattering roof tin and twisting frames. Provisions and materials were all out in the open. Trees were stripped, houses wrecked and leaves blown off the brush. He also told of the work of reconstruction.

Other projects are in the rumor stage.

Boje Writes Home About Guam Typhoon

Woodburn — O. H. Boje of Woodburn who is stationed with the navy on the island of Guam, has written vivid details of the typhoon which struck the island Nov. 17, in a letter to his wife here. Much of the letter was written while the storm was in progress and he tells of seeing sheets of roof tin and parts of cars blowing up the highway.

Basuto Ritual Murders Create British Problem

By R. F. S. DEWDNEY

Johannesburg, South Africa, Dec. 6 (AP)—Ritual murders in Basutoland are presenting British authorities with one of their most difficult problems in African administration.

In this normally law-abiding country, where half the population are Christians, the bodies of 293 victims of ritual murders have been found by police in the last seven years. There is reason to believe at least twice as many cases have gone undetected.

In the same period 121 Basutos have been convicted of ritual murders and 72 acquitted. Judges of Basutoland high court have sentenced both men and women to death in batches from five to 17, but it has made little impression. The gruesome killings go on.

A ritual murder, as practiced by the Basutos, consists of seizing a victim and cutting various portions off his body, possibly skinning and scalping him, while he is still alive. "Medicine" made from the blood or the body after death is considered useless.

When mutilation is complete the victim is knocked on the head, throttled or flung over a cliff.

In trying to stamp out these crimes, colonial authorities find themselves up against a blanket of silence. Villagers will not testify or give evidence against one another and refuse to incriminate the witch doctors and chiefs believed responsible.

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Grangers to Hear Weims

A full evening of entertainment and business awaits Marion county livestock men and their families at Siverton Hills Community hall on December 9.

That is the date of the livestock association annual meeting, Ladies of the Silverton

the accused for 40 pounds (\$112). The motives behind the murders are obscure, but generally are attributed to the desire of chiefs and witch doctors to regain their former powers, weakened under christianity and modern progress. To do so they have fallen back on the age old customs and superstitions that are still only just under the surface of most Basuto skins.

Hills Grange will serve a family style banquet at 7 p.m. Friday night, December 9.

A full program of entertainment has been planned by Mr. and Mrs. Victor Howard and the Alvin Hartleys. Lloyd Sletto, Lyons, president of the stockmen will be toastmaster and in charge of the business meeting.

Sergeant Charles Weims of the Oregon state police will be the speaker. Sgt. Weims is in charge of game protection work in the Willamette valley and coastal areas. Outstanding 4-H and FFA young folks will be another feature on the evening's schedule.

All county stockmen are urged to be on hand when dinner is served at 7 p.m.

A record 175 players participated in the 37th annual Southern tennis championship played at the University of Arizona recently.

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