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4 — Salem, Oregon, Monday, December 12, 1949

Johnson Boasts of Defense Cuts

Secretary of Defense Johnson is talking more and more like a presidential hopeful.

Last week at the National Association of Manufacturers' convention in New York Johnson told the businessmen that he and President Truman were deserving of support for the administration's financial policies.

The defense secretary assured conventioners that economies he had put into effect would keep military expenditures for the current fiscal year down \$1 1/2 billions.

Johnson explained that since the United States had no aggressive ideas, it was anticipated that the first blow would be struck by the enemy.

Johnson's mishandling of the recent Admiral Denfeld case and his verbal reliance on the Navy to lead the offense don't jibe with those watching from the sidelines.

Johnson can take a bow for his proposed economies, providing those economies have not weakened the nation's defenses.

Now that Johnson has taken bows for his proposed economies, the people want to know what he is doing to counter the piling evidence of what Russia has done to increase its offensive power.

Johnson could be more effective and helpful to the people if he would keep the nation more informed on the relative merits of the nation's defense system instead of boasting of his cuts in expenditures.

That is the case even if he is trying to point the record toward a run at the presidency in '52.

More Discord Over Jerusalem

Decision of the United Nations to internationalize Jerusalem has brought new dissension to the turbulent Middle East.

Accepting the United Nations' verdict as a "lesser evil," are the remaining six members of the Arab league—Egypt, Iraq, Saudi, Arabia, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen.

There was no official indication of what action Israel or Jordan would take to prevent the proposed international regime from taking over.

King Abdullah's minister in Cairo, Baha Eddin Toukan, said his government "does not accept internationalization."

What steps will be taken by the protestants remain to be seen, but some effort is expected to create a bilateral pact to preserve the present division of the city into Arab and Jewish halves before the United Nations creates its occupation force.

Red Iron Curtain Falls on China

Emaciated United States Consul General Angus Ward and his 19 member party are on their way on an evacuation ship, Liberty Victory, to Japan.

Ward, who was caught at his consulate at the fall of Mukden 13 months ago, 28 days of which were spent in prison in solitary confinement on trumped up charges on a diet of six slices of bread and hot water during which he lost 25 pounds, refused to "guess" at the cause of their treatment.

It is not hard to guess at the motive of the Chinese Reds, who are following a similar pattern all over China.

Formosa long ago was prepared by the "Gimo," as they call Chiang, for his last ditch stand.

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The loss of Chengtu and surrounding territory is a serious blow to the nationalists.

The nationalist troops which were defending the government in the temporary capital of Chengtu are being pulled back further westward to Sichang.

Whether this force will be split up into guerrilla contingents probably will depend on developments.

BY BECK

Things to Worry About



SIPS FOR SUPPER

No Raids Expected

By DON UPJOHN

Football pools, baseball pools, bingo games, sales of lottery tickets on quilts, et cetera and all of those sorts of things are taboo under the law and raise quite a commotion every once in awhile.



Don Upjohn

There seems to be no end to the versatility of Oregon larcenists.

Grade AAA Milk

Louisville, Ga. (AP)—Veterinarian W. L. Yearns was called in during the week-end to treat two gay old cows who had gone off on a spree.

Taxis Boost Church Hour

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 12 (AP)—Attendance at the Stuart street Christian church Sunday night "Happy Hour" has increased since inauguration of free taxicab service.

The plan to give free cab service to persons desiring to attend the services was started two weeks ago.

Mr. Finley said the money spent on taxicab fares about equals the increase in offerings.

"We come out even on the cost," he said. "It's working fine and we're going to make it permanent."

One taxicab company provides the transportation to and from the church at reduced rates.

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

More Terrible Phase of War In China About to Begin

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

China's civil conflict appears to be entering a new and perhaps even more terrible phase—the waging of guerrilla strife by the Nationalists against the now victorious Communist armies.



DeWitt MacKenzie

This means underground fighting. It means stealthily blowing struck under cloak of night when no man knows whether he is facing friend or foe.

The orthodox phase of the protracted warfare was formally ended Thursday when the nationalist government abandoned its temporary capital at Chengtu, western China.

This great island off the south-east coast has been turned into a fortress by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek and is defended by some 300,000 troops, supported by an air force.

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WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Justice Dept. Should Check Payroll of Rep. Wickersham

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Now that the case of Congressman Parnell Thomas has been disposed of, the Justice department might take a look at another congressman, this one a democrat.

He is Victor Wickersham of Mangum, Okla., a likeable gentleman, with considerable skill at manipulating the congressional payroll.



Drew Pearson

Congressman Wickersham states in his self-penned biography in the Congressional Record that he was "reared on cotton, wheat and dairy farm near Mangum, Okla., and on wheat and poultry farm near Greensburg, Kan."

For a farm boy, the congressman has come a long way. He now operates his own real estate business, not merely in Oklahoma, but right in the nation's capital, and has one real estate agent drawing money from the congressional payroll.

It is important to remember that congressional payrolls are not paid for by a member of congress. They are paid by the taxpayers, and allotted to each member of congress in order to help him run his office and perform services for the people of his district.

The congressman from Oklahoma has two interesting names on his payroll:

1. James W. Taylor—Who does not work in the congressman's office at all, but is a salesman for the Herd Equipment Company of Oklahoma City.

2. Lloyd Matthews—Who hasn't been around the congressman's office since last summer, but has been employed in the congressman's real estate firm at a salary of \$2,298—from the taxpayers.

Unique fact is that Wickersham's office, when queried, didn't even recognize Taylor's name.

The secretary in charge, Aubrey Witt, scratched his head, finally recalled that the congressman knew a Jim Taylor in Hobart, Okla.

Witt remembered Matthews without any trouble, but reported he was working in the congressman's real estate office.

This column then put through a call to Mr. Taylor in Hobart, Okla. Here is the transcript of the conversation:

Question: You used to be in the sheriff's office, didn't you, Mr. Taylor?

Taylor: That's right.

Q: Whom do you work for now?

A: The Herd Equipment Company.

Q: Do you also work for Congressman Wickersham?

A: Yes.

Q: What do you do for the congressman?

A: Oh, I work as a clerk.

Q: What kind of clerical work do you do?

A: Oh, I answer letters for him.

Q: Does the congressman get many letters these days?

A: No, not many.

Q: You mean to say you get \$7,700 a year just to answer a few letters?

A: You ought to talk to the congressman about that.

bright, with the Chinese Reds rushing in for battle with the nationalist army to the west.

Nationalist tactics, as envisaged by observers, may involve creation of a considerable number of guerrilla "pockets" on the mainland to harass the communist forces.

And what does the future hold for Chengtu and this rich farming area?

BY CLARE BARNES, JR.

White Collar Zoo



"Leave this material with me... I want to think about it."

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Water Shortage in N. Y. Starts a Run on the Faucets

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—If cleanliness is next to Godliness, then the average New Yorker today is a neighbor to heaven.

He's so spotless he shines. He's never been so clean before.

It's all because of the great water famine. City Hall suddenly discovered that folks were using 1,200,000,000 gallons of water a day—more than 150 a person—and metropolitan reservoirs were down to 34.7 per cent of normal capacity.

And the water level is shrinking. So Manhattan, surrounded by two oceans and three rivers, is wondering dismally if it is going to become a near-desert island.

Well, you know what it is when a thing gets in short supply.

Folks figure, "By golly, I ain't going to be cheated out of my share."

And people who once had to be driven, screaming in protest, to their weekly Saturday night scrubbing are now taking two baths a day—and slipping home at lunch for a shower.

It has been found that a faucet is only good to the last drop—and mama keeps turning the faucet on and off to be sure there are still a few drops left.

The situation has created a new medical problem—secret water drinkers. A man is afraid to leave a visitor alone in his room, for fear he will rush to

A nice thing about the shortage is that they no longer bring you fingerbowls in most restaurants.

In the midst of this aqua pura panic one gent stands undismayed. This is Johnny Bo-bo.

Johnny got his name from his habit of standing at the bar in Fogarty's neighborhood saloon belting himself with straight bourbon and muttering at his reflection in the mirror—"Bo-bo, Bo-bo-bo, Bo-bo-bo-bo."

"Any body wants my water can have it," says Johnny Bo-bo. "I ain't touched the stuff since the summer of 1921. I know sooner or later somebody would find it unpatriotic to drink it."

Tot Takes a Beating

St. Anthony, Idaho, Dec. 12 (AP)—Eighteen-month-old Wayne Dunn took a beating. But he's expected to recover.

Wayne tumbled into the family washing machine—while his mother was elsewhere.

The agitator knocked Wayne unconscious. But finally the machine stopped. Mrs. James Dunn returned to find her son badly beaten and nearly drowned.

Doctors said the child would recover. He suffered multiple bruises. The soap injured his eyes.

Boy's Faith in Santa Is Shaken

Tyler, Tex., Dec. 12 (AP)—A little boy's faith in Santa Claus was shaken today.

When their five-year-old son balked at taking a dose of castor oil, a Tyler couple arranged for Santa Claus to telephone and advise the boy to take his medicine.

The youngster was impressed. He put down the telephone, bolted for the bathroom, grabbed the castor oil bottle—and downed a half-pint.

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