

## What's That Noise Back East? That's Congress Starting Up

By JAMES MARLOW

Washington, Jan. 3 (AP)—That noise you hear, starting today is congress.

The blood-pressure of the regular Washington inhabitants has been down to normal for about two months or so.

Those were the months in which congress, taking a recess here, had gone back to buzz the home folks.



'Economic Cure'—Albert S. Falk (above), bearded Minnesota paperhanger, announced in New York that he will submit to the United Nations his pension plan to give everyone in the world over the age of 21 an income of \$20 to \$50 a month. He will present his plan to "cure the world's economic and other ills" when the UN reconvenes. (Acme Photo.)

But congress, the senators and representatives, were streaming back here Monday.

And today at noon it will open its final session before next fall's elections pick a new congress for 1951.

Then, meaning today, the wheels start grinding again, the orators cut loose, and Washington is kept jumping.

This will last until summer rolls around when the congressmen, seeking election, will scam away again.

This time, while congress was away, workmen fanned up their meeting place. House and senate chambers got a going over.

This will help some, since the senate has always, because of the poor lighting, been a dreary-looking place.

The house wasn't much better. Maybe the better lighting will have a beneficial effect on congressional tempers.

Readings accounts of congress in session doesn't, and can't, give you a full picture of the lawmakers at work.

They work all right, besides talking. There are hearings which seem endless, once they get underway.

Regiments of people, each with his own ax to grind, troop up to the hearings to speak his piece.

And since congressmen have axes to grind, too, meaning political, this adds to the noise if not to the clarity.

And then, of course, Congressman Whozis, afraid he'll miss a chance for a little free publicity, has a statement to make.

In addition to the hearings, the oratory and the witnesses, congressional staffs are working. Messengers speed along the corridors of the senate and house office buildings, stenographers on their high-heel shoes move through the halls, too, but not exactly speedily, and the long lines form in the cafeterias.

And then, of course, there are the people, always the people, from the 48 states, parading through the Capitol, through the office buildings, over the lawns, up and down the steps, taking pictures, stretching their necks, being amazed or impressed, or disappointed.

And—I almost forgot—there's the endless sing-song of the professional guides in the Capitol itself, pointing out the wonders and ancient glories of the place, for so much a tour around.

All in all, life picks up here today.



Young Lodge Leaders at Mill City—Left, Mrs. Margaret McCoy, 22, Worthy Matron of Eastern Star, and Carmen Stafford, 21, noble grand of Rebekahs.

## Young Women Lodge Leaders

Mill City, Jan. 3.—Mill City has two young women who have the distinction of being the head of lodge chapters at very early ages. They are Mrs. Margaret McCoy and Miss Carman Stafford.

Mrs. McCoy, 22, was installed Monday night as worthy matron of Marilyn chapter No. 145, Eastern Star, and she is believed to be the youngest in that position in Oregon. She is Mill City's telephone operator. Mrs. McCoy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith of Sheridan, who are past patron and matron of Marilyn chapter.

Mrs. Stafford, 21, has been installed as noble grand of Santiam Rebekah lodge No. 166 at

Mill City for a six months term. She is the youngest member ever to hold the office. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Stafford of Gates, are also members of Santiam Rebekah lodge. Miss Stafford is correspondent for the Detroit Dam News.

## Miss Charlene Shaner Has Tenth Birthday

Woodburn.—Miss Charlene Shaner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ray Shaner of Woodburn, celebrated her tenth birthday anniversary as the honored guest of her grandmother, Mrs. Dilly Bliven, and her uncle, Mr. Daniel Bliven of Brooks, since they came for the holidays from Yachats where Mrs. Bliven is the school principal.

Other enjoying the birthday dinner with Charlene were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Shaner and her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Morgan.

## Fabulous du Pont Family Honors Refugee Ancestors

Kennett Square, Pa., Jan. 3 (AP)—One hundred and fifty years ago a small band of tempest-tossed political refugees from France scrambled ashore at a lonely spot near Newport, R. I.

That was on January 1, 1800. On the 150th anniversary of that occasion, 632 descendants of those refugees gathered at beautiful Longwood Gardens here to celebrate.

The wealth of those assembled Sunday is untold, for they are members of the fabulous du Pont family. The family members don't even know how much they're worth.

And it was a celebration in keeping with the du Pont tradition. A two-hour luncheon banquet was highlighted by the serving of game pie and johnny cake.

Each game pie weighed 35 pounds just like those the du Ponts brought with them when they left France aboard the "American Eagle" for their 91-day trip to the United States.

Among the pie's ingredients are veal, pork, turkey, chicken and various wild game.

It made a big hit with the guests here. So did the johnny cake, a type of corn bread. It was johnny cake which the original du Ponts found on the table of a Rhode Island farmhouse shortly after they landed their leaky ship at Newport.

The farmhouse was unoccupied; so the du Ponts sat down and ate.

Two years later Pierre Samuel du Pont, the family elder, and his sons had founded on the banks of the Brandywine river at Wilmington, Del., what has grown into E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc., one of the world's biggest industrial empires.

The bill for Sunday's banquet

## R. E. Ringling, Of Circus, Dies

Sarasota, Fla., Jan. 3 (AP)—Robert Edward Ringling, 52, a one time operatic star who became a top circus official, died last night.

He was chairman of the board of Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey circus. He twice served as president of the "Big Top."

A stroke caused his death. Ringling was the son of the five brothers who founded the "Biggest Show on Earth." He was the last surviving child of any of the founders.

His close associates said he never cared much for circus life. He entered the show business after his crippled condition forced him to leave the concert stage. He became permanently injured playing high school football.

He studied in Munich for the opera. Later he sang for the Chicago Civic opera when the late Samuel Insull was its biggest contributor. He also sang with a Cincinnati opera company.

Ringling lived in a palatial home here near the Ringling art museum.

Survivors include his widow and two sons, James Conway Ringling, 25, and Charles Joseph Ringling, 12, his mother, Mrs. Charles Ringling, and a sister, Mrs. Charles E. Sanford, all of Sarasota.

Georges Have Guests

Silverton.—With their parents for the holidays from Christmas over New Year's have been the families of the two sons of Howard George, principal of

the senior high school, and Mrs. George, at their James avenue home, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon George and Phil of Corvallis, and Mr. and Mrs. Norman George of Pullman, Wash. Gordon George is a junior, working on a forestry major at Oregon State college, and Norman George is in his senior year at Washington State, Pullman, majoring in pharmacy.

Wood for coffins is said to provide one of the heaviest drains on Chinese forests.

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## U.S. Foreign Aid Total \$30 Billion

Washington, Jan. 3 (AP)—U.S. aid to foreign countries since the war now totals nearly \$30,000,000,000.

A commerce department report last night said that from mid-1945 through last September the amount was \$28,187,000,000. Figures for the last three months of 1949 are expected later, showing a round sum total of about \$30,000,000,000.

The total amounts to about \$200 for every person in this country.

Reductions in the outflow are expected as war-torn countries rebuild.

## Store Owner Slugged

Portland, Jan. 3 (AP)—An ice cream store owner was slugged on the head with a soft drink bottle by one of two gunmen last night and then robbed of \$25. Police said Roy V. Pearson, 49, required 14 stitches to close the scalp injury. Pearson said he was slugged while grappling with one of the men who had forced him to enter a back room of the store.

## Nem's Country Store Rivals Big City Stuff With His Sale

Holley Grove, Tenn., Jan. 3 (AP)—The bargain basement of the big city department store had nothing on Nem Caughran's country store here Monday.

Caughran hung one rack full of clothing and marked it: "Free, only one to a customer." He filled up another rack and tagged it "\$1". All of it was clothing that had been accumulating for 10 years, and Nem was having a "clearance."

Caughran advertised last week what he was going to do, and the crowd at his front door was thick as the 9 o'clock opening hour came.

Caughran, peering over his horned-rim glasses, took time out from waiting on customers and said: "I don't rightly know how many are outside. I guess about 200 at the start, but every time I open the door they push me back. We're just letting in 30 at a time though."

Customers looking for something "for free" apparently were coming from miles around, including nearby Lewisburg. There are only about 25 families in the Holley Grove community.

Caughran usually has only one hired clerk on the job to help him—but he had four more assistants Monday. They were recruited from the gang that's always sitting around the pot-bellied stove swapping yarns in the store.

His cash register was ringing up some "normal" sales, Caughran added. But whether cash sales were above or below normal he didn't "rightly know."

"I've been too busy," he said. Caughran figures his "clear-

ance should last about three days before all of his giveaway and \$1 merchandise is gone. He said he hung about 200 garments on the "for free" rack today but has more in reserve. The highest original price on any garment, he said, was \$20 for a ladies' coat.



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