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4— Salem, Oregon, Thursday, January 19, 1950

Lifting the Gag

Admiral Denfeld is writing his own ending to the disgraceful handling of his recent dismissal as chief of naval operations. He is asking that he be retired after 40 years' service in the navy.

It is probably best that way. When his retirement becomes effective March 1, he will be free to speak his mind as he found it wasn't during last fall's hearings in Washington, D.C., on unification of the services.

Denfeld admitted that no one had asked him for his side of the story which covered the appearance before congress and ended abruptly by his being fired by Secretary of the Navy Matthews.

It made no difference that the house armed services committee had asked Denfeld to give his honest opinion on the way unification of the services was working. It made no difference that the Secretary of Defense several months before the hearing had directed that the gag be lifted on statements of officers except for material classified "for security reasons."

The only threat to security in Denfeld's criticism of the way in which the unification law was being administered was to the security of those defense officials administering the law. Congress had asked Denfeld and other ranking naval officers for information which would help members of congress act properly in shaping the nation's armed forces. Because President Truman and Defense Secretary Johnson didn't like what Denfeld was telling congress, Denfeld got bounced. In disciplining the then chief of naval operations in that manner, Truman and Johnson were defying the right of congress to investigate the armed forces.

Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin has raised the startling possibility that Admiral Denfeld had already been commissioned until 1951 as chief of naval operations when he was fired. This would make the actions of the top Fair Deal brass toward Denfeld even more odorous. To give out the phony excuse that Denfeld was "incompetent" to do a job for which he had been recommissioned but a month or so before is to make the case just plain stink.

The invincible Johnson and his crony Matthews may not be so invincible when Denfeld is in a position to tell the facts about his case. Denfeld's retirement will lift the gag that Johnson tried by rully methods to enforce in what appears to be a brazen manner.

A Fine Judicial Appointment

Governor Douglas McKay is to be commended for ignoring partisan politics in his appointment of Judge Earl C. Latourette as associate justice of the supreme court to replace Justice E. M. Page, whose resignation was forced by illness. He has thus lived up to the spirit and intent of the law creating a non-partisan judiciary, something that some of his predecessors ignored, placing judicial fitness the main consideration.

Judge Latourette is a democrat and appointed circuit judge by another republican governor, Albin W. Norblad, Sr., 19 years ago, and has been regularly elected since in a republican district. His record as a jurist shows that he has had a "phenomenally small number of opinions reversed," is well versed in the law and has that rare qualification, a judicial temperament, fair and impartial in his decisions.

Justice Latourette was recently favored by a margin of 3 to 1 by the Oregon State Bar association for appointment to the newly created federal judgeship. But the newly elected left wingers now in control of the state democratic organization recommended instead a little known lawyer who had rarely appeared in court and had no other recommendation than his partisan politics, which seems to be the only qualification his required in the "Fair Deal." He has not yet been confirmed.

The qualifications of Judge Latourette for appointment to the federal bench were thus listed by the bar association: "Learning in the law. A background of highly creditable judicial experience. High personal standing and honored Oregon family," he follows to the supreme bench two other Clackamas county jurists, the late Thomas A. McBride and James U. Campbell.

Our Brave New World

The modified plans for the new Marion county courthouse show an improvement on previous designs but still retain the glorified barn or warehouse effect that is in sharp contrast to the stately architecture of the state buildings it was supposed to conform with.

That of course, is a mere layman's viewpoint, one probably not qualified to pass on the "beauty" and "symmetry" and "simplicity" of the new architecture, whose dwellings resemble hencoops or outhouses and whose windowless big business and public buildings, warehouses and grain elevators.

There are many, of course, who rave over the "modernistic" architecture, just as there are those who swoon over the nonsensical freak dabs of the "futuristic" and other "modernistic" cults, and in the same category the jarring discords that masquerade as "modernistic" music. And the same "trend of the times" is evident in the crack-pot "liberal" politics of the New Deal, the Fair Deal and socialism, communism and other ideologies that are demoralizing the world.

To many however, contemptuously relegated to the rank of "has-beens" in the incoherence of "the brave new world," these modernistic crazes may in future perspective be viewed as evidences of a gradual decadence that is bankrupting humanity and ushering new dark ages to overwhelm civilization.

It Is a Small World

Spokane, Jan. 19 (AP)—Small world department—Friday, Jan. 13, a car slowed to a stop during a blizzard near Klamath Falls, Ore.

A second car slid into the side of the first. Police Traffic Sergeant George Pymm of Spokane stepped out of the first. Allen Goldberg of Spokane got out of the other.

They knew each other. The greetings? "Fancy meeting you here," of course.

BY BECK Wives



'Cougar Scare' Scared Off

Wenatchee, Jan. 19 (AP)—The 'cougar scare' has subsided here today.

Yesterday a man telephoned police to say tracks of a cougar could be seen clearly in the snow of his front lawn within the city limits.

Police dispatched a man. Cougar tracks, sure enough. But, after the story was printed in the newspaper, a high school student called in to say he was the cougar.

The student made a drawing of a plaster cast of a cougar's tracks in the Wenatchee museum. Then, in woodworking class, carved a set of wooden cougar feet. Strapping them on his feet, he walked home from school.

This Story's Got Everything—Especially a Laugh or Two

Tacoma, Jan. 19 (AP)—The seige of Roy took place again Monday afternoon, as usual, the Pierce county sheriff's department won out.

In the latest chapter, a crew of telephone repairmen set out to free long distance lines tangled by a tree branch during Friday's blizzard.

The trouble spot was located on a farm south of Roy owned by an elderly couple noted for their dislike of railway section crews, highway crews, snow salesmen or anyone else who sets foot on their land. As in previous Roy seiges, the crew was turned back by the oldsters and returned later with sheriff's deputies Bob Forrest and Russ Wall. The sheriff's office said deputies had been dispatched to aid road and line crews through the farm on other occasions.

The old folks took a stand under the tangled lines and refused to budge. Deputy Wall began an advance. It lasted five steps and tumbled through the ice of a small pond. He clambered out, took five more steps and plunged in again—waist deep. The advance became a retreat. The deputies conferred. They laid planks to reach the defiant couple when the family bull strode up to watch the fun. But he strode too far. There was a crack and splash, and the bull was in the pond.

The animal carried away a good section of the ice coating, leaving a lane of open water between the deputies and their quarry. This so delighted the old folks that they broke into wild guffaws—so wild in fact that, yes, the ice broke again and they got their turn in the pond. The woman reaching for a hanging branch of the tree, intending to haul herself back on the ice. The branch became snarled with that entangling the phones lines. Another tug, and both branches crashed to the ground. The phone lines sprang back into position. That restored the long distance line. The cast retired—amid much sneezing.

Guests Left Waiting at the Altar, While Groom Argues Over Age

Los Angeles, Jan. 19 (AP)—The church was ready. The guests were waiting and so was the priest. But the bride and bridegroom were missing.

It all happened because of the bridegroom looked too young. Arthur (Bob) Miller, 21, of Hobart, Ind., had tried for five days to get a marriage license to wed dark-eyed Joan Pullara of nearby Eagle Rock. But he was turned down at every nearby office because of his youthful appearance.

Came time for the ceremony and the prospective newlyweds in formal wedding attire still were chasing around in search of a believing marriage license clerk.

But no luck. The guests in the church then were told would be no ceremony. However, the reception went on as planned Saturday night—the food couldn't wait.

But there is a happy ending. Miller wired back home for an affidavit to prove him the required 21. The county clerk opened up shop special Sunday when the affidavit arrived. The priest was called and so were the guests.

So in St. Dominic's Roman Catholic church, the two were wed.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Dixiecrat GOP Coalition Gives Seven Men Lower House Control

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Here is how the republican-Dixiecrat coalition is riding roughshod over the right of free democratic processes in the house of representatives.

Meeting behind closed doors in the rules committee the republican coalition not only demanded the reinstatement of the old gag rule by which that committee can bottle up any bill, but even refused to let Chairman Adolph Sabath of Illinois, who opposed the gag rule, speak. Each time the 83-year-old Sabath started to talk he was shouted down with cries of "vote! — vote!" by Democrats Gene Cox of Georgia and Howard Smith of Virginia and their republican cohorts. Finally, GOP Congressman Leo Allen of Illinois took pity on the little chairman.



Drew Pearson

"He has a right to talk," pleaded Allen, above the bedlam. "Let him speak for two or three minutes." Sabath didn't appreciate the humor in this. He was so riled by the roughhouse tactics of the coalitionists that he almost choked up. "We ought to at least have a public hearing, so that opponents of this resolution can be heard," he demanded. "This is a matter of vital concern to every member of the house. Since we repealed the gag procedure last year, this committee voted out 55 rules on bills and resolutions, the greatest number in history. "Some of you say that the resolution will give the committee more power—that is, power to stifle legislation which you oppose. As committee chairman, I don't want that kind of power. I want to protect the rights of the house membership."

Fair Dealer Backsides However, Sabath's motion to postpone action on the Cox resolution and to give house members a right to testify for or against it at a public hearing was smothered under a 7-4 vote. The three members who joined Sabath for a free discussion were: Democrats Ray Madden of Indiana, John Lyle of Texas, and James Delaney of New York.

The seven who voted for immediate action without a public hearing were: Democrats Cox, Smith and William Coler, of Mississippi, and Republicans Allen, Clarence Brown of Ohio, James Wadsworth of New York, and Christian Herter of Massachusetts.

Lyle of Texas and Delaney of New York, however, backed into republican ranks on the final, 9-2 vote for the gag rule, leaving Sabath and Madden standing alone against it. Delaney, who usually supports the fair deal, somewhat sheepishly explained his defection by saying that he wanted to restore the power and "prestige" of the committee which, he contended, was abolished by last year's rules reform.

What this amounts to, though Delaney didn't say so, is that the New Yorker favors giving seven men over the rules committee more power than 500 other members of congress. From the nation's rogues galleries, the children's bureau has dug up a shameful, shocking story. It is a side of American life that isn't generally known, but the bureau estimates close to 100,000 children were thrown into adult jails last year along-side hardened criminals.

Youngsters were even found shoveling dirt on road gangs and serving sentences in state penitentiaries. These were not mere isolated cases, but might have appeared right in your home county, for in 34 of the 48 states children were discovered in jail with grownups despite the fact that most of these same states have laws protecting children from such treatment.

Not only were juveniles often found in filthy jails with foul toilets, spotted mattresses, and with roaches running along the walls, but in some instances youngsters were lodged in the same cells with murderers and rapists. In Taylorville, Ky., a 13-year-old runaway boy was locked up in a two-cell log jail for four days with a screaming, laughing maniac. A 10-year-old Negro boy was sentenced to the South Carolina state penitentiary by Circuit Judge M. A. Mann in Abbeville, S.C.

Just across the Potomac from the nation's capitol, the children's bureau found 14- and 15-year-old boys working on the road gang in Fairfax, Va. In fact, 2650 Virginia youngsters were herded into the same jails with adult prisoners during 1948—some going back as many as four times. This is the same state, incidentally, that is run by Sen. Harry Byrd's efficient political machine.

Criminal studies show that jail doesn't cure as much crime as it breeds, especially when juveniles are locked up with professional criminals. For professionals don't make the best teachers, and sending children to jail is through a school in putting them into a reformatory.

A much better method of handling young lawbreakers has been worked out by the Big Brothers of America, now celebrating national Big Brother week.

Volunteer "big brothers" are selected from prominent citizens in each community who are willing to put a friendly arm around a wayward boy. Their individual guidance saved more than 5000 boys from a life of crime last year—less than 7 percent of the boys who have been given this individual counsel have made second mistakes. Yet the cost is less than \$45 a year for each boy—for club dues, camp life and vocational guidance. This is only a fraction of the \$2000 it costs to keep a boy in a reformatory for a year.

Meanwhile the public, though aroused over the current crime wave, seems indifferent to the practices that are breeding a new generation of criminals. Right under the public's nose, children are being clamped into adult jails even though this is just as much a violation of law as the crimes for which the children have been sentenced.

The problem was summed up quite simply the other day by a former inmate of the Indiana boys school at Plainfield, Ind. He had been the son of the town drunk, had stolen money to help care for his neglected mother. When the war broke out, he marched off into the army.

Talking to a children's bureau worker the other day, the former delinquent remarked: "When war broke the people were willing to spend hundreds of dollars to buy me clothes and food and ammunition. But during peace they were not willing to spend one cent to help the town drunk's sons."

Haiti two weeks ago came back with another complaint against the Dominican Republic. This time, it said, Dominican officials were involved in a plot to assassinate President Estime, the chief of the palace guard, the army chief of staff and the chief of police. Haiti demanded the Rio treaty be put to work.

BY CLARE BARNES, JR.

White Collar Zoo



"I'm looking for an interesting job that doesn't call for typing or shorthand."

Socialized Medicine Has Come To Great Britain to Stay

Editor's Note: One of the most controversial measures enacted by Britain's labor government during the past five years was its national health plan of socialized medicine. The British Medical Association fought it bitterly, but finally agreed to cooperate just before it went into effect July 5, 1948.

(In the following dispatch, a United Press correspondent tells of the status of opposition to the plan as the British general election approaches.)

By GERALDINE HILL

London, Jan. 19 (AP)—Socialized medicine has come to Britain to stay. Enacted by the labor government in 1948, it will remain on the statute books regardless of the outcome of the general election next month.

Even doctors who prefer free enterprise in medicine have given up their fight to repeal it. And Winston Churchill's conservatives, who know a popular law when they see it, say flatly in their election handbook: "It can never be too often stated that the conservative party is wholeheartedly in favor of a national health service available to all."

The conservatives concede that a party which opposes free medical and hospital care for all would have little chance at the British polls, even though the public ultimately pays the huge bill through heavy taxes. The only questions remaining are how socialized medicine shall be administered, and how much private practice shall survive. The British medical profession as a whole, under leadership of the British medical association, abandoned organized opposition to the labor government's national health service in the summer of 1948.

But a core of medical diehards remained. They acknowledged that they could not hope to get repeal of the health service plan, but they began a campaign to correct its "abuses" under the banner of "the fellowship for freedom of medicine." Heading the fellowship is 79-year old Lord Horder, King George's physician. Under his leadership, the fellowship has drawn up 10 amendments for presentation to parliament. "We are not against a health plan," Horder said, "but we are against this one in its present form. We hope that the abuses in (health minister) Aneurin Bevan's scheme will be rectified with the help of our amendments."

He said the amendments designed to preserve private practice on a broad basis as an alternative to complete state control of medicine. "The most important amendment is that every Briton should be given the choice of either remaining in the national health service or leaving altogether and receiving a refund from the state, according to the cost of the service at that particular time," Horder said. "If a Briton remains in the scheme but wishes to occupy a private bed in a hospital or nursing home, he should receive a government grant toward the cost, based on the statistical cost of a bed in a public ward. He should be allowed free drugs and certain appliances."

She Had Ideas on Tax Form

Oklahoma City, Jan. 19 (AP)—An Oklahoma county operator of a second-hand magazine shop has individual ideas about completing tax forms.

County Assessor Frank Smith received one from her yesterday—she wasn't identified—which listed her "furniture and fixtures" as "orange crates, tables, book rack and magazines."

She gave her inventory at the close of the year as "\$200." And even the next question—"Is this the same as shown on your income tax return?"—is quickly answered.

"Yes and no," she wrote. "nobody figures it alike." As "Other Assets (describe fully)," she listed: "God, friends, enemies, customers, second hand merchandise and me—inclusive."

Capital Journal WANT-AD WONDERS LOST DOG BROUGHT AD TO HER FINDER! Amused when a stray springer spaniel came to his door with a newspaper in her mouth, Stanley T. Gray of Los Angeles looked through the Lost Ads. Finding one that fitted the dog, he phoned her owner, who lived several miles away. U.S. and Canadian newspapers print more than 300,000,000 individual Want Ads every year. Copyright 1949, Howard F. Timm, Inc. U.S. Pat. Off. Your Ad Will Bring Results Too TELEPHONE RESULT No. 22406