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ROBERT A. TAFT

The death of Senator Robert A. Taft bursts upon the country with startling suddenness, for only this week was his condition admitted to be serious, and then it was supposed he might be in for a long period of failing health. Already he is dead.

That Bob Taft was a remarkable man is an understatement. The son of a president of the United States and born to wealth, he deliberately chose the tough, often unrewarding career of a politician, learning his exacting trade in the Ohio legislature before he went on to the U.S. senate.

Taft was not blessed with a "political personality." No one seeing him for the first time would pick him for political success. He looked more like a successful lawyer or business man than one who could achieve success through the votes of the electorate.

That success was won by hard, painstaking work. He literally "made a horse of himself," to master every intricate detail of legislation, so he could speak with authority. To this he added the utmost of courage and candor. Taft might be wrong, but he was seldom in doubt after he had studied the question and he was always sincere. It was upon this solid foundation that he built the tremendous prestige he enjoyed with both Republican and Democratic senators. For several years he has been by far the most influential member of the upper house.

Like so many great senate leaders before him, the greatest prize, the presidency, which came so easily to his father, eluded the son. He sought the Republican nomination three times, almost made it in 1940 and again in 1952, but was nosed out each time. In 1944 Taft stood aside for Senator Bricker. He tried again in 1948, but Tom Dewey's well oiled machine again dominated the convention. Taft made his last and greatest effort in 1952 and came within an eyelash of winning.

Although bitterly disappointed Taft was strictly in character in rising above his hurt feelings, loyally supporting the Eisenhower ticket. Subsequently he became Eisenhower's right hand man, his virtually indispensable link with congress. How the administration will fare with Taft gone remains to be seen, but his death will be a heavy blow, for there is no one else with his capacity to compose differences both within the Republican party and between senators of the two parties.

Despite Taft's outstanding qualifications for the presidency, what a blessing to the country it is that he was not nominated and elected, for had he been we would now be plunged into the confusion of a change of administration. Eisenhower is only a year younger than Taft, so the Republicans were forced last year to choose between two men past 60, the first time in many years this has happened in either party which was not renominating a president. Presidents should when possible be found among men under this age, as they usually have been heretofore.

The immediate political effect of Taft's death will be the return of the senate to Democratic control, assuming Ohio's Democratic governor names a Democrat to the vacancy as there is every reason to expect. Mike Di Salle, last year's Democratic nominee, is reported likely to get the place, and he should make an excellent senator.

Oregon Senator Wayne Morse announced today that while he will work to defeat the Republicans next year, he will vote against Democratic organization of the senate now, since the people elected a Republican administration last year. This is a consistent attitude, though on a quick glance it may not seem so. Morse's decision means that the Republicans, though outnumbered now, will continue to hold the committee majorities and chairmanships, the appearance of power without the votes on the floor to back it up, unless they can attract more Democrats than they lose Republicans on the controversial issues.

The Eisenhower administration will continue to get many of its measures through the senate despite the loss of Taft, for a number of Democrats are friendly, but no straight party measure can hope to pass. Eisenhower's troubles will surely increase.

Meanwhile, America bids a sad farewell to a great son of a great father who has served his country well, and helped to create a tradition of public service by our ablest men who too often devote their lives to the larger immediate rewards of business and the professions.

VOTES, NOT VETOES, THE ISSUE

In view of the determination of many of the United Nations members, as shown by the expressions of their governments, to admit communist China to the global organization could be blocked by the United States is questionable. The only place a veto could be utilized is in the security council, and it might not be able to utilize it there.

The security council has 11 members, 5 of them permanent: the United States, Britain, France, Russia and the Chinese Nationalist government of Chiang Kai-Shek. The other six seats rotate among the 55 nations of the UN. The six seats are now occupied by Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Greece, Lebanon and Pakistan.

Approval of any issue requires a vote of 7 of the 11 members. Two kinds of problems are handled by the council, substantive and procedural, and it is up to the council to decide when it is one or the other. In previous decisions, when a membership was at stake, the council held that it was substantive. For that reason it was able to keep them out without a veto. It has vetoed the admission of Ceylon and Portugal three times, Finland twice.

The reason is that any one of the five permanent members has a right to kill any substantive matter with a veto, although all other 10 members approved it. But when the council decides a matter is procedural and not substantive the veto can't be used. Approval can be given with any seven votes.

If the council chairman decided that, because China is already a member, the question of which the Chinese government should be seated is a procedural matter, and his ruling was sustained by a majority of the council, a veto is not effective on a chairman's ruling and the United States could be outvoted on the admission of Red China into the UN by the council and no veto could be utilized. Approval on a major issue like Red China would require a two-thirds vote of UN—40 of its 60 members.—G. P.

SOMEBODY BELCHED



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Senators Promote Favorite Messenger Boy to General

By DREW PEARSON

Washington — It went unnoticed in the small print of the appropriations bill, but the senate appropriations committee has promoted its favorite messenger boy to a major general. He is Maj. Gen. Robert Moore, who has not been promoted by the army since he was a colonel. However, he's now promoted by act of congress.

Moore has endeared himself to powerful senators by doing special favors, such as arranging trips abroad at the taxpayers' expense. In reward, the senators promoted him to be a brigadier general in 1950 by an unusual device. They tacked a rider on the appropriations bill which declared that the army could not spend any of the money in the 1950-51 supplementary appropriations bill until their fair-haired boy was made a brigadier general.

The army had several fighting colonels in Korea who deserved to be promoted, but it was forced to give first priority to Moore.

This year Moore apparently feels that his senatorial catering service deserves even higher rank, so his senator friends have slipped another rider into the appropriations bill forcing the army to give Moore still another star before it can spend any money next year.

Army generals admit privately that they would like to get rid of Moore, but they are afraid of his powerful friends in the senate. As long as he can ingratiate himself with senators, it looks as if his job is secure. If his present promotion rate keeps up maybe he'll be the nation's first five-star messenger.

In Congressional Cloakrooms
Best job of GOP leadership has been in the house. Speaker Joe Martin and Charley Halleck of Indiana have held tight grip over GOP-ers—better than the democrats did over their house forces under Truman. . . . Republican leadership in the senate without Taft has been shaky. Knowledge of California is nice but not overly skilled. Democratic leaders are bitter toward Knowland. "I wouldn't trust him any further than I could throw him," says Johnson of Texas. . . . the democrats have been quietly cooperating with the republicans regarding Taft's illness. When close party votes came up, democrats have sometimes had one of their number stay off the senate floor so as to give the republicans the edge. . . . It was on August 3—just a year ago—that this writer first exposed the discrimination of navy brass hats against Capt. Hyman George Rickover because of his religion. Though Rickover is the navy's top expert on the atomic submarine, a promotion board twice passed him over. Following this writer's expose, the senate armed services committee called navy brass hats on the carpet re Rickover, and this week, one year later, Rickover was officially made an admiral.

Ike Wants Adjournment
Reason why congress is hell-bent for adjournment, even if it kills some of the older senators, boils down chiefly to one thing — Ike wants to get congress out of his hair. He is fed up with congressmen, tired of soft-soaping and cajoling, bored with congress-

ional liaison meetings, wants to get out to the cool of Colorado. Some GOP leaders shake their heads ruefully, warn that tough legislative problems are not being settled, merely postponed until next year when things will be tougher. But Ike wants to send congress home just the same. That's behind the night sessions, the frenzied compromising, the jamming through of legislation so fast that most congressmen don't know what's in the bills.

Ike's Luck
"Ike is a lucky guy," opined one GOP leader. "Stalin waited for him to take office before he died, leaving Russia in a dither. Then he knocked off a Korean truce. Now he's lucky enough to have a democratic opposition that doesn't know the score." "If the democrats were as smart as we were in boxing Harry Truman, they would make us look like political mince meat. But Ike's lucky." What he referred to is the manner in which the republican national committee rolled out the mimeographed speeches for congressmen to deliver on the floor by the bushel basket. A battery of thirty ghost writers, stenographers and researchers kept GOP senators and congressmen supplied with ammunition every day of the week. Today the democrats are broke, well-intentioned and not alert. No master strategy is being cooked. The democratic national committee even lacks a contact man to work with congress, let alone speech writers.

Truman Got There First
The other day Columnist Bob Allen dropped in to see democratic Chairman Steve Mitchell. "What do you think of President Truman's speech scheduled out in Detroit and Minneapolis?" he inquired. "What?" asked the surprised democratic chairman. "Yes, Harry's going to speak in Detroit on Labor day and then Senator Humphrey has got him to speak in Minneapolis on Sept. 12, later that week." Mitchell hadn't even heard about it. That was why Adlai Stevenson's big homecoming meeting in Chicago suddenly was shifted from Sept. 11 to Sept. 14.

THE GOP SCORE
What worries republicans about the "postpone legislation" motto of the Ike administration is that the postponed log-jam will gang up during the coming election year. Here are some of the things that are being postponed until the next congress when it will be tough to handle them:

1. Higher Postal Rates — To increase postal rates just before election brings wry means to most GOP congressmen, smiles to democrats.

2. Increased Debt Limit — This will bring a lot of embarrassing debate in an election year.

3. Reciprocal Trade — Was renewed for one year only. There will have to be another big hassle next year.

4. Taxes Have Been Postponed — The Ike administration brought in no new tax bill, merely continued Truman's taxes. It'll be tougher to write

Salem 34 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL
July 31, 1919

President Wilson had opposed the United States receiving any share of the indemnity paid by Germany.

A conference of high government officials and cabinet members had met with Attorney General Palmer to discuss the food situation and rising prices.

After a month of prohibition San Francisco had found that families were more congenial, her male population less given to fighting, her automobiles more carefully operated but with liquor still comparatively easy to get.

At midnight all government controlled telegraph and telephone lines had been returned to private ownership.

Deeds to right-of-way to the Portland Southeastern railroad had been filed with the county recorder. The road had plans to run from Mt. Angel to Stayton and then across the Cascades to Bend.

Automobilists were warned to keep away from Eola. Oscar Huber Construction Co. had a contract for paving from the west approach of the Center street bridge toward Dallas and the route had become difficult for travel.

"Webfoot" airplane of Salem Aero Co., had made the flight to Eugene with Elmer Cook as pilot and Fred Mangis as passenger. The distance of 80 miles had been covered in 85 minutes.

Oregon had requested officials in Washington to supply an air patrol to assist the forest service in guarding against fires in the timbered regions of the state.

E. Clemens Horst Co., at Independence had advertised that hop pickers would be paid 60c a box for hop picking with tents, wood and straw furnished free.

Over 30 returned soldiers, sailors and marines in Corvallis had organized a branch of the American Legion.

Oregon to Enforce Law On Parental Obligation

Eugene Register-Guard

Old man Oregon is going to be just a little bit rough on able sons and daughters who relegate aged parents to the relief rolls, according to Miss Lo Howard, state welfare director. With Max L. Dudley, the Lane county administrator, she went over the situation created by the law adopted by the 1953 Legislature which tightens up the responsibility provisions for next of kin. The main provisions are:

Welfare is given access to the gross earnings of the closest blood kin (although it does not tab brothers and sisters). Although the gross earnings figure does not include all the details of an income tax report, it gives a starting point for determining ability to pay.

Where ability to pay is established, welfare will bill the most affluent relative for the care of the aged and he can settle with other members of the family.

In extreme cases, a judgment can be directed against the unwilling relatives.

The picture of willful neglect in Oregon is not nearly so bad as might be supposed, according to Miss Howard. We have 173,021 persons over age 65 of whom only 21,688 require old age assistance, indicating that

DIM VIEW OF DICK

Grants Pass Courier

Dick Neuberger, the Portland free-lance writer whose penchant for headline-hunting chatter is his greatest claim to fame, presently is banging away at the theme: "Oregon needs a two-party system."

Even the recent flare-up among state prison inmates was charged by Neuberger to lack of a two-party system.

Oregon has a two-party system—to the extent that Democratic registrations exceed the Republican.

The Neuberger type of party bosses trot out radical candidates and enough conservative Democrats vote for Republican candidates to generally elect them, however.

Neuberger uses his seat in the state senate to further his free-lance writing. No doubt, he could command still better rates if he could sign his stuff "governor of the state of Oregon."

However, we suspect that it will take more than just a lippy personality like Mr. Neuberger to bring about the kind of two-party system he desires so ardently.

DOGS BITE CARRIERS

Salt Lake City — Postmaster D. R. Trevithick, after 22 mail carriers were bitten by dogs in the last 12 months, asked residents today to tether any canines "who don't give a darn for public servants."

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

'Johnny Walker' Man Who Saved the U.N. in Korea

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP) — The man who saved Korea was "The Little Bulldog."

He was Lt. Gen. Walton H. Walker, first of the 8th Army's four commanders in the 37-month Korean campaign.

And when the military history of that frustrating operation is written it must show "Johnny" Walker as a crucial figure. One wrong guess by him and the war would have been over within the first two months. We would have been shoved off the peninsula.

Most generals prefer to fight cautiously. A few generals like to gamble boldly in attack. A truly fine general is one able to fight with equal genius either on the offensive or on the defensive.

"The Little Bulldog," a squat, plump, square-jawed Texan who looked more like a small town businessman than an Army commander, proved before his death he could do both superbly well.

"Johnny" Walker won his fame as leader of the 20th "ghost" corps, which spearheaded the 3rd Army in Europe in the second World War. Gen. Patton was so pleased with his bold victories that he personally pinned on him the three-star insignia of a lieutenant general which Gen. Eisenhower had given Patton.

Gen. Walker liked to recall that time in the early days in Korea, in which he commanded surely one of the weakest armies ever to take the field anywhere.

His task was to retreat as slowly as possible while regrouping the shattered South Korean forces and building up the American corps as fast as troops could be ferried to the front. He was unable to man a continuous battleline. He was short of everything — men, tanks, anti-tank weapons, artillery.

Walker saved the day by a defensive that amounted to an offensive. He shuttled regiments and battalions and companies around the front in a continuous razzle-dazzle, throwing the enemy off balance by magically showing strength where they least expected it.

At one time his force was so completely committed that if guerrillas behind the line had attacked his own headquarters he wouldn't have been able to summon another platoon to defend it.

"You won't find that in the books, will you?" he told a correspondent later. "They would say you were crazy to fight a war without reserves. But that's what we are doing—because we have to."

His famous "stand or die" order when he created the Naktong River defense line seemed hopeless. But Walker rode about the front line like a madman, standing up in his armored jeep and gripping a handrail as he gave orders.

The line bent, but never broke. "The Little Bulldog" had to strain his line to the utmost by pulling out the 1st Ma-

rine Division, which was to land behind the enemy in the Inchon invasion on Sept. 15. His weakened army then took its heaviest blows — and still held.

The day after the Inchon landing Walker immediately switched to the offensive again and predicted the war "should quickly be over" unless the enemy was re-inforced. Did he foresee the entry of the Red Chinese? Certainly he was well aware of the possibility.

Walker smashed fiercely through the North Korean crust before him, and in the kind of pursuit he enjoyed raced clear to the Yalu river before ambushing Chinese forced him to draw back.

It is questionable whether Walker thought the later "win-the-war" offensive in November was wisely conceived—but he carried out his orders. When it was smashed, he pulled back 120 miles in an orderly retreat.

But death prevented him from seeing his army's resurgence. Ironically, he died in a traffic accident, as had his idol, Gen. Patton. He was killed Dec. 23, 1950, when his jeep crashed into a truck driven by a South Korean soldier.

"The Little Bulldog" now sleeps in Arlington Cemetery. But his true monument is the American 8th Army he welded in Korea.

IRREPRESSIBLE MORSE
Astorian-Budget

Being exiled to the District of Columbia committee isn't enough to squelch Sen. Morse, judging by a clipping he has sent from the Washington Post. It contains a prominently displayed account of the Oregon senator's successful effort to prevent stripping the general administrator of the city of most of his power by stripping him of his funds.

Morse led a fight for passage of the city budget bill in the senate, contending that such an appropriation bill should not be used to settle a personality dispute within the city administration. Morse won out in an oratorical battle on the senate floor.

One has to hand it to the Oregon junior senator for energy and news-making ability. He even finds opportunities in a senate committee job that is considered next thing to being in the ash can.

PRAISE FOR JUDGE FEE
(Oregon Voter)

Judge James Alger Fee is eminently qualified for appointment to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The opinions rendered by him have been signally sound over his experience of twenty years on the U. S. District Court bench. He has been assigned to many cases outside his jurisdiction because of the confidence felt in his balance, firmness and ability. His promotion to the higher court would be welcomed by leading members of the bar.

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