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SUPREME COURT SPEED-UP

Chief Justice Earl C. Latourette has divided the state supreme court into two departments as the means of expediting the business of the court, dispose of the backlog of cases and return to a current basis.

This same system was in vogue for a number of years up to 1943, when it was abandoned. Since that time, particularly during the last two years, appeals filed have been on the increase, with the result that the court is about one year behind in disposition of cases.

The 1953 legislature conferred broader powers upon the Chief Justice and extended in a most definite manner, authority of the Chief Justice over circuit courts of the state.

In courts where the Chief Justice found a backlog of undisposed cases, a pro tem judge was named to aid in breaking the jam. At present 12 Oregon attorneys are sitting on the bench in various circuit courts of the state as judges pro tempore.

When Chief Justice Latourette first began assignment of pro tem judges, disapproval came from some circuit judges. However, since the plan has been in force in a wider area, many of these judges have appealed for aid, giving excellent cooperation to the Chief Justice.

With more cases heard and disposed of, the appeals to the high court have increased. Justice Latourette reviewing the situation, decided that with the lower courts making strides in catching up on cases, something should be done to expedite the work of the Supreme Court. The two department plan was the result.

It is not surprising that Chief Justice Latourette has taken this step, because as a circuit judge in Clackamas county for many years, he established a record for keeping his docket up to date.

Taking into consideration the hardships resulting from long drawn out court cases, Chief Justice Latourette is to be congratulated not only for his efforts in speeding up the work of the circuit courts in the state but also for taking a step that is hoped will materially reduce the backlog of cases now awaiting hearing on appeal to the supreme court.—J. D. O.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

George Washington, our first president and chief of the founding fathers who set up the United States government, was born 222 years ago today, an interesting combination of numbers to mark an always interesting event.

This annual reflection upon the father of our country never fails to remind the thoughtful person of the tremendous change in political styles that has occurred since his day.

Washington, for instance, never heralded his own virtues, never promised his followers much more than the "blood, toil, tears and sweat" so eloquently phrased by another great leader long afterward. He never wanted the highest office or any other. It is not recorded that he ever slapped anyone's back or allowed his own to be slapped. He was not "one of the boys," had few "personal contacts" among politicians or public.

On top of all that he was a rich man who lived in a mansion and owned slaves. If you want any more, he powdered his hair on occasion. Yet he was twice elected president by unanimous vote in the electoral college. What do you make of it?

One is forced to wonder if people had more shrewdness in sizing up their leaders before the days of the mass publicity—and propaganda techniques. Or they may have had more character and hence demanded it of their top men.

Whatever the cause, which can never be surely known, reminiscence backward to Washington and his times, like that to Lincoln a few days ago, brings the sobering conclusion that all has not been pure, unadulterated progress in the United States since its earlier eras. Particularly in the political field.

We have no Washingtons and Lincolns today and if we had they would not rise in our politics. They wouldn't even try, knowing full well they were licked before they even started.

THE WARREN AFFAIR

The mystery surrounding the long delay in reporting out the name of Earl Warren for confirmation as chief justice of the United States is gradually disappearing and it all stems from one eccentric individual, Senator William Langer of North Dakota, whom the seniority system of the senate has projected into the chairmanship of the judiciary committee.

It was Langer who delayed reporting Warren out till public sentiment and other senators forced him to do so. Then he caused to be publicized a list of unsupported charges, whose chief author, it appears, is a fugitive from justice, hence, one imagines, no admirer of courts or judges.

It was Langer also who took the unprecedented step of bringing the F.B.I. into the picture for an investigation, though everything about Warren has been known to the public for years. Only Langer opposed Warren's confirmation in the subcommittee. A violent row with the other members preceded the vote there.

So far as the record shows, Langer has nothing whatever against Warren personally or as a judge. But he has been fighting the Eisenhower administration, which has retaliated by nominating four North Dakota postmasters without previously consulting Langer. The senator has since filed "personal objections" to their confirmation which if the senate follows precedent will block their confirmation. But the senate may be disgusted enough with Langer right now to override his objections.

Anyway, Langer is playing peanut politics with the Warren case, something which ought to be extremely unusual in the handling of major questions in congress, but which we suspect isn't.

Chessman of Astoria Heads Press Group

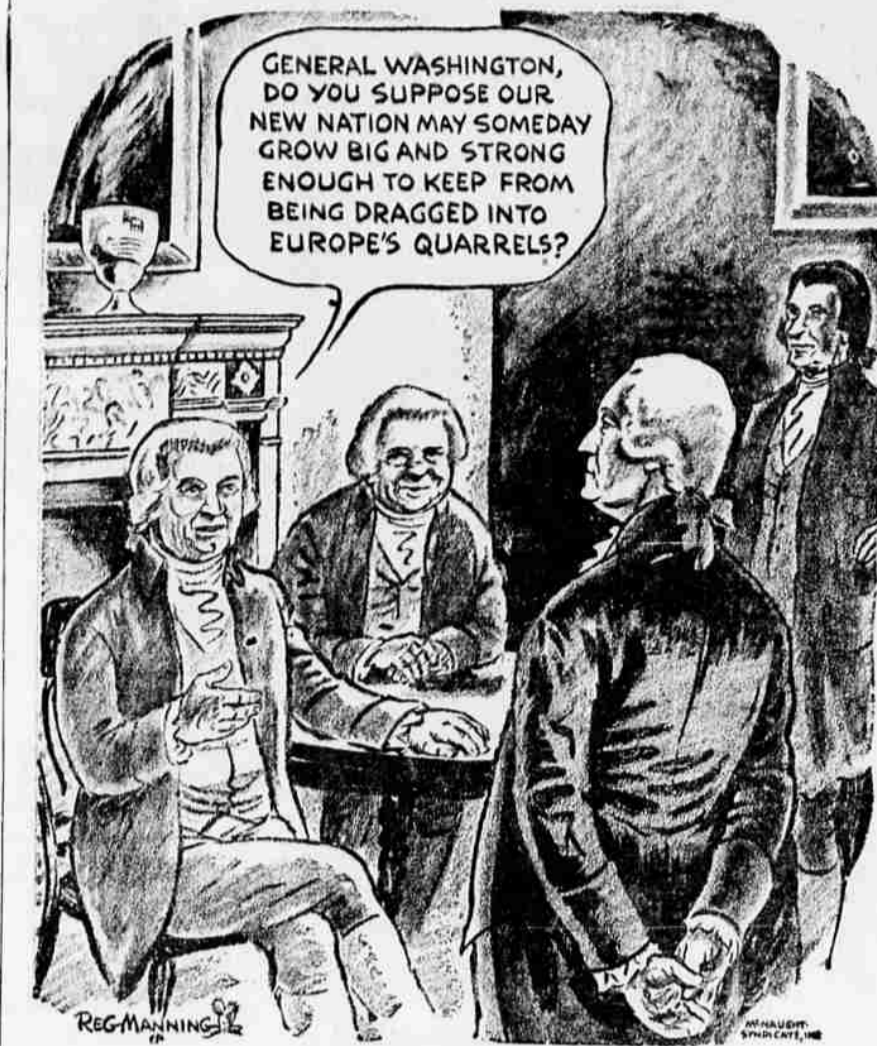
EUGENE (AP)—Robert B. Chessman, publisher of the Astorian Evening Budget, is new president of the Oregon Press Conference. He succeeds Tom B. Purcell, publisher of the Gresham Outlook.

Also elected at the meeting of Oregon newsmen here Saturday was Vern McKinney of the Hillsboro Argus who was named press conference representative at large on the board of trustees of the Eric W. Allen Memorial Fund.

BATHERS BEWARE

LIVE OAK, Fla. (AP)—Swimmers for years have favored the Swanee river here for bathing. Yesterday County Commissioner Thomas Mosgrove caught and killed a 12-foot, 800-pound alligator in the stream.

'ISOLATIONIST' DREAM?



Manion Affair

By RAYMOND MOLEY

Once more, it seems that the White House team has performed in an awkward fashion. And it seems further that the chief performer has been presidential assistant Sherman Adams.

The former governor of New Hampshire, after somebody in the know had signalled the action to favorite newspapermen, abruptly asked for the resignation of Clarence Manion, former dean of the Notre Dame law school, as chair-man of the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. That a Lincoln's birthday should have been selected for this was just one of those awkward coincidences. The plot is muddled further by the fact that to take such action at this time certainly would give friends of the Bricker amendment reason to claim that Manion's advocacy of that measure was the reason behind the action. The whole thing suggests the comedy of errors that surrounded the "lost" presidential message on Taft-Hartley and the resignation of Durkin.

Manion, however, is not without blame in the matter. The great importance of the commission of which he was the head should have transcended the need that he exercised his views on the Bricker amendment. Also, the fact that one of the major problems of his commission would be the future of the TVA should have prevented his making premature statements on that subject. There also has been criticism of the commission because it has been so slow in getting organized.

It is a tragedy that this upset should have taken place. For the purpose of the commission goes to the very heart of the basic problem of government in the United States. The only way through which we can escape rule by a huge, overgrown Federal bureaucracy is to shake loose the Federal government's hold on tax sources which formerly and properly belonged to the states. For two or three decades the federal government has been seizing those sources with one hand and has been giving back a part of the loot to the states in the form of grants-in-aid.

It was unfortunate that when the Manion Commission was appointed its function was announced as an attack upon "duplication."

It is not "duplication" of Federal and state functions that is the matter. It is expropriation by the federal government.

But to work out the details of a new apportionment of tax sources will be an immense job. It will require vast research, patient negotiations and, later, persistent pressure for legislation.

An excellent report on this subject was written by a task force of the first Hoover Commission in 1949. It pointed out in some detail the sources appropriate for state taxation and those appropriate for the federal government. However, nothing came of this preliminary survey. It remains for the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations to take up those Hoover suggestions, spell them out and get congress and the states to consider them.

That is more important than the fate of Manion Adams, or the president himself. For it involves the future of republican government.

USED CARS WITH TV

BOISE, Idaho (AP)—A Boise furniture dealer has reversed the field on the auto industry and is giving a used car free with each purchase of a television set.

"I figured that if they could give TV sets with cars, I could reverse it," said Mel Foster as he announced his one-week-only promotion.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Hal Witnesses 'Agony' Program, Never Felt Worse

By SAUL PETT

For HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK—Out of a clinical curiosity, I went to an "agony" television program recently and everything went according to plan; I never felt worse.

The show was "Strike It Rich," which gives away about \$250,000 a year to people who tell their troubles before the cameras. For that kind of dough, you can buy a lot of trouble.

The audience involved mostly women and some servicemen who seemed to have wandered in out of boredom. On the stage there were many boxes of a wash detergent and pastebord hearts since this is "the original show with a heart" and the soap pays for the heart.

A few minutes before air-time, a cheerful, tall man came out and introduced "the man with the really big heart," who turned out to be Walter Frammer, the show's producer. Frammer, a short man with heavy glasses and a nervous set smile, introduced the man who had introduced him.

Then Frammer made a little speech which I took to be an answer to recent criticism of the show on the grounds that it attracts needy people to New York who ended up on relief and that it exhibits bad taste in parading human misery in public.

"We're not running a welfare department," Frammer said. "Just a little quiz game, which is basically for entertainment and also some inspiration."

Frammer concluded by telling us he wasn't asking us to applaud but he'd appreciate it if we did when he raised his hands thus and so and, besides, there would be prizes later for those who applauded the most.

As the show got under way, Frammer was very busy, running around checking camera angles, watching the clock, leading applause and several times darting backstage to announce "heartline calls," which presumably come from people watching at home.

The first contestants were Mayor Dominick J. DeLuca of Hartford and Lionel Hampton, the band leader. After a few questions, they won \$300 for a girl in Hartford, "who is sick—very sick—just to prove how sick she is, her weight has gone from 143 to 73."

I also thought it was nice of Warren Hull, the host, to bring out the fact that the mayor owns a restaurant in Hartford, which bears his name, and that Hampton's next theater date will be at the Apollo in Harlem.

After a singing commercial and a plug for a movie magazine, a gray-haired, nervous woman tried to win \$125 for a sewing machine. She said she's alone in the world she sews for a living and "they took away my old machine, I'm back in the rent and my lights have been turned off."

Having difficulty with several questions, the woman won only \$50. But at the last second, Frammer's "heartline" voice announced that "Strike It Rich" had just arranged with a certain company, which he named, for her to get a sewing machine free as well as the \$50 in cash.

"Ah, boy!" Hull sighed. "That was to the rescue all right."

Next came two young honey-mooners who wanted to win money for a Korean orphan boy whom the husband had once befriended in Korea. "The boy," we were told, "was hungry, cold, had insufficient clothing and his bones were swollen."

The couple had trouble identifying compasses and won only \$20. Hull thought that was too

bad, but never one to miss a silver lining, he added, "That'll go a long way in Korea."

The last guest was a public health nurse who wanted to win money for a hospital bed for her patients but just then the program ran out of time. There were only a few seconds left to announce "heart-line" calls in behalf of the sick girl in Hartford. These donations included \$50 from a meat-market, which was named.

Later, I went backstage where prospective contestants were being interviewed for future shows. They included a pregnant woman and her husband, two women with small children, two soldiers and one young lady, somewhat hisbeveled in a long coat and saddle shoes, who was crying quite visibly; "I'm so nervous," she sobbed, "I'm getting married next month. I want a tractor for my farm."

Salem 48 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

February 22, 1906

Charles O. Cosper, city mail carrier for the past 10 years, had resigned to move to California on account of his wife's health.

Elmer Miller, Dave Miller, Lloyd Farmer, Errel Kay, Walden Alfred, Leona Graham, Margaret Klein, Marie Hofer, Louise Cronise, Murah Hatch and Edgar Sherman had been elected members of Salem high school Diogenes society.

H. D. and Cooke Patton had presented Auburn school district with a beautiful, 24-foot flag.

"Way Down East" had been a recent attraction at Grand Opera house.

Salem Woolen Mill store had a splendid variety of umbrellas for men ranging in price from \$1 to \$2.

Famous, 15-ton Willamette meteorite had been sold by Oregon Iron and Steel company to a client who would present it to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.

In order to give people of Salem an opportunity to see the beautiful country immediately south of the city Citizen's Light and Traction company had hourly excursions over their new electric street car line to rock quarry south of Odd Fellows cemetery.

Rostein & Greenbaum, 298 Commercial street, were advertising 75c heavy, all wool dress goods for 65c a yard.

JUST A LITTLE MISTAKE

TULSA, Okla. (AP)—Giles P. Spiva protested to police who awakened him from his snooze that "it was all a big mistake."

The officers were summoned by Charles Lindsay, who said there was a strange man asleep in his bed.

Spiva, 29, told police he had lived at that house six months ago and had just made a mistake. He was led to jail to finish his nap there on a drunkenness count.

SHE CAN PROVE IT, TOO

MIAMI (AP)—Mrs. Blanche I. Morse sued to divorce Kenneth C. Morse, an employe of Pan American Airlines. She charged her husband has a girl in every airport. She named them.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Rhee Offered to Fight in Korea to Save Indochina

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—Here is a condensation of the inside story of what we are doing—or not doing—regarding Indo-China. It is a story of French suspicion coupled with American indecision, and the net result is likely to be loss of the richest tin and rubber area in the world to communism.

A lot of Americans walked because rubber was scarce in World War II, and a lot of others collected old cans and toothpaste tubes because tin was scarce. Now the vital area which supplies these essentials is in just as much jeopardy as during the days when Japan occupied Singapore.

Here are some of the chapters in the story.

Syngman Rhee offers to renew war—President Syngman Rhee's offer to send one South Korean division to fight in Indo-China was only part of the message which Gen. John E. Hull brought to the White House. Most important part of the message was that Korea wanted to resume the war in order to divert the Chinese military from the Indo-Chinese border.

Rhee proposed to Ike, through General Hull, that South Korean troops do all the ground fighting if war was resumed. What he wanted was help from the U.S. air force and Navy. Rhee argued that seven Chinese divisions had been taken out of Korea, so he could easily crack the new cement-and-steel communist defense line.

Originally Rhee proposed going direct to the French with his idea, but General Hull persuaded him to wait until Eisenhower himself had a chance to consider it.

President Eisenhower was not enthusiastic. The last thing he wants is to start the Korean war over again. It is recognized that the end of the Korean war made it possible for the Chinese to divert tremendous amounts of supplies to Indo-China, but Ike just doesn't want to get mixed up in Korea again anyway.

Mechanics to Indo-China—One trouble with U.S. policy regarding Indo-China is lack of coordination. One branch of the government doesn't know what the others are doing.

Admiral Radford, for instance, slipped in to see President Eisenhower by himself and arranged for the sending of 250 airplane mechanics to help the French. This was a vitally important decision. Yet the cabinet didn't know about it, the National Security Council didn't know about it, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who are supposed to correlate these things, didn't know about it. Finally, Secretary of Defense Wilson, who is supposed to run the defense department, didn't know about it.

It was even a surprise to Gen. Nate Twining of the Air Force, who had to supply the 250 airplane mechanics for Indo-China.

Hit-and-Miss Policy—This free-and-easy method of making decisions regarding the most vital battle area in the world continued after congress began to raise Cain about the 250 mechanics.

Senator Saltonstall, chairman of the senate armed services committee, phoned the White House and got Gen. "Slick" Persons on the phone.

"There ought to be a cut-off date for these mechanics in Indo-China," he said, explaining he wanted to assure senators that a date was fixed for the mechanics' return to the United States.

"Maybe you're right," replied Persons, who handles White House liaison with Capitol Hill. "What date would you suggest?" he asked.

Senator Saltonstall said he thought June might be a good cut-off date.

General Persons agreed.

All right, then we'll say June 15," he concluded.

Thus, in a completely casual manner, it was decided to bring the mechanics home on June 15. The Air Force was not consulted, the cabinet was not consulted, all General Persons did was phone the Pentagon and give orders for the mechanics to come home by June 15.

French Recalcitrance—Part of the administration's troubles in Indo-China, however, stems from French suspicion and reluctance. The French are worried sick that too much American cooperation will give the Chinese an excuse to pour troops across the border by the hundreds of thousands, as in Korea. So far, communist interference has been confined chiefly to munitions and supplies.

That is why—up until last week—the French refused to let the United States participate in training native troops. U.S. military men have done a terrific job training Greek and later South Korean troops; have repeatedly urged the French to let us help them in Indo-China. But the French repeatedly turned us down.

Chiang Kai-Shek has also offered to send his army to Indo-China, but again the French say no. Nor do they want South Korean troops for the same reason. They fear Red Chinese intervention.

The French have not even been willing to permit U.S. observers to check American military equipment at the front, where U.S. officials suspect a certain amount is sold on the black market or finds its way into the hands of the enemy.

American Troops—At meetings of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Radford has gone so far as to suggest sending American troops, but Gen. Matthew Ridgway, army chief of staff, has argued that the army doesn't have enough troops to spare for Indo-China under present budget restrictions.

Admiral Radford is also plugging for his pet scheme of a naval blockade of the China coast to force the Reds to come to terms. The navy has been so hopeful that Radford would be able to sell this idea to the White House that orders have actually been issued holding up the names of the 50 vessels supposed to be moth-balled. Word has been passed out among the admirals that these will be needed for the blockade.

These are some of the different desultory moves, none of them very well coordinated, none of them considered too seriously regarding the wealthiest area in all Asia.

Undependable Survey

Albany Democrat-Herald

That Better Homes and Gardens survey indicating that at least 90 per cent of the high school students in Nassau county, New York, drink alcoholic beverages leaves us about as dubious as did that report by a Dr. Kinsey, now a little hazy in memory, making some slightly startling disclosures about certain other habits of adult men and women.

This latest survey, according to the published news story, "was evidently based on interviews with the students themselves."

No doubt this report will bring forth a lot of sad-eyed shaking of anxious elderly heads in all the 48 states and the District of Columbia. You know—this younger generation, already far along the road to the dogs and going at an accelerated speed.

THE WORLD TODAY

Would Washington Change Ideas?

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP)—If George Washington could hear his Farewell Address read in Congress today, would he make any changes in the advice he gave the nation in 1796?

It was advice which the nation has always honored but hasn't always followed.

Washington might revise his thinking about political parties, about which he had deep misgivings.

"There is an opinion," he said, "that parties in free countries are useful checks upon the administration of government and serve to keep alive the spirit of liberty."

He said he thought this was probably true "within certain limits" and he mentioned monarchies as an example, but he added that in a government like this party spirit "is a spirit not to be encouraged."

At the time he wrote there was only one party, the Federalists, led by Alexander Hamilton and representing the monied and commercial interests of the East. It wasn't long afterwards that the Republicans, under Thomas Jefferson, rose up, smashed the Federalists, and set the two-party system in motion. These Republicans were the forerunner of the present Democratic party.

It was the rise of political parties which, by keeping any class or faction from controlling too long, probably was the main force in preserving the democratic American society which Washington wanted preserved.

Washington's advice to this country to stay out of entangling foreign alliances made his Farewell Address a hymn book for American isolationists. And for more than 100 years his advice was followed.

"Europe," he said, "has a set of primary interests which to us have none of a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the causes of which are essentially foreign to our concern."

But he didn't lay down isolationism as a blanket rule. He foresaw the time when this country might have to make alliances: "Taking care always to keep ourselves by suitable establishments on a respectable defensive posture, we may safely trust to temporary alliances for extraordinary emergencies."

What is an extraordinary emergency? This country thought it saw one in World Wars I and II, when it made alliances, and after World War II when it joined the Atlantic Pact with Western Europe against Russia, although it might be argued the Atlantic Pact is hardly temporary.

But Washington's advice was disregarded when this country joined the United Nations after World War II to try to preserve peace and stop aggression anywhere on earth.

And what would Washington think of Secretary of State Dulles' notice that the Communists would be paid back with massive retaliation if they attacked anywhere? There is nothing isolationist in that.

But when Washington wrote his Farewell Address the threat of world communism wasn't even a gleam in the eye of any Russian or Chinese alive then. If Washington were alive now he might consider it necessary—say Presidents Roosevelt, Truman and Eisenhower did—to have foreign allies.

Maybe he wouldn't. And, since history isn't all written yet, maybe he was right all the time.

Tah, tsh! and all that . . . Well, in our opinion, at this distance, either that's a pretty unrepresentative country or some washish teen-agers are chucking round a bit of unsuspected leg-pulling.

DON'T TRIFLE with a cold!

That "little cold" is nothing to trifle with. If you have cold symptoms, go to bed and call your doctor. Professional advice may mean the difference between fast recovery and lingering illness. Don't trifle with a cold... call your doctor for fast relief.

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