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WESTERN STYLE GUN PLAY IN THE HOUSE

We do not know if any moral can be drawn from the sensational shootings by Puerto Rican nationalists in the U. S. House of Representatives Monday except that a congressman ought to sit under and not on his seat, and it may be doubted that this advice, which would have been so timely yesterday has any value now.

Specifically we do not think the incident calls for a blanket condemnation of Puerto Ricans, or those Puerto Ricans who became a special problem to the U.S. by migrating to New York. Even when it is considered that Puerto Ricans of similar ideas, maybe part of a single gang, attempted to assassinate President Truman. They did kill a police officer and paid the extreme penalty for murder.

The shooting incident does highlight two facts. First, that when any country, whether the U.S. or otherwise, extends its rule over other peoples it takes on a new batch of headaches. We got into Puerto Rico through the war with Spain in 1898, a very brief struggle with small losses and small costs—at the time. But what a wake of trouble and expense followed, including the war with Japan from 1941 to 1945, which probably wouldn't have been fought if we hadn't become a Far East power through taking the Philippines, Guam, etc. Nor is there an easy answer through granting independence, as we have to the Philippines without reducing our expense or responsibility. Puerto Rico has been a headache for years and will be for years more. Independence is not the answer, for U.S. rule has been beneficial. A lower birthrate down there would help more than anything else, and nothing is more unlikely to occur.

Second, the high government official lives under constant danger of assassination, a target for malcontents every day. Three presidents were assassinated and others would have been but for an alert secret service. Senators and congressmen are by no means immune as the shooting Monday grimly attested. Still, they probably dread occasional gunfire less than the character assassination that has to be accepted as one of the inevitable risks of being a public man.

HELL BOMB BLAST NEARS

In a brief announcement Monday the Atomic Energy Commission issued the statement that an atomic device had been detonated at its proving ground in the Pacific. The text of the announcement read:

"Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, announced Monday that Joint Task Force Seven has detonated an atomic device at the AEC's Pacific proving ground in the Marshall Islands. This detonation was the first in a series of tests."

Like previous atomic tests, the blast was screened from the world by a cordon of navy ships and an umbrella of war planes. It was the first of the newest series of atomic explosives tests in the mid-Pacific. It is expected that before the tests are through, American scientists will touch off a hydrogen "device" bigger than the one that ripped a mile-wide hole in the ocean and destroyed an island on November 1, 1952.

The "atomic device" was chosen because it could refer to the test "gadget," an atomic weapon, an atomic trigger for hydrogen weapons or a "hell bomb" itself—but the latter is expected to come later.

Nothing was said of the results, nor any other information beyond the fact that it is the "first of a series." That is in accordance with the secrecy which has veiled previous tests. Possibly the biggest man-made blast of all time is in preparation.

The AEC has widened its proving ground in the Marshalls, and restricted the observers who would be on hand, barring any from even friendly powers. Nevertheless, a congressional delegation is preparing to leave for the Marshall Islands tests site next week in the hope of reaching the scene before the big hydrogen test is staged.

It seems unlikely that the big hydrogen blast had yet been detonated. The AEC announcement referred to an "atomic device." Generally, the term "thermonuclear" is applied to a hydrogen reaction.—G. P.

BILLY'S OFF TO A GOOD START

Billy Graham could hardly have launched his soul saving campaign in England under worse conditions. He was quoted throughout the country as attacking the powerful Socialist party before he landed. It is not quite clear yet whether this was really a typographical error as claimed. English Socialists are still suspicious.

Then the largest circulation English newspaper, the London Sunday Pictorial, greeted his arrival with this blast, calculated to put even a Billy Graham behind the proverbial eight ball:

"You should take your campaign to Burtonwood (U.S. air base in England) where some of the lads need redemption almost as much as you do."

"At Burtonwood you can preach to some of the men who have helped to land British colonialism meaning 'to saddle' Britain with many hundreds of illegitimate babies; and to some of the audiences concerned in the recent scandal over shows given by nude dancing girls; and to some of the high-spirited GI car drivers who can't get English policies any more."

"No lack of raw material there, Billy. For good measure you can take in the chicken-witted teen-age British girls who hang around the place."

"Take our advice, Billy. Go north, young man. Go to Burtonwood. Start your crusade among your own folk. London can wait."

Notwithstanding all this he was greeted by a tremendous crowd when he reached the London station and his first sermon was attended by a congregation of 12,000, despite miserable weather. He is evidently off to a typical Graham success, despite high water and all that goes with it. Obstacles become stepping stones to Billy.

UNDRAMATIC END OF WARREN DRAMA

The dramatic situation precipitated by the tactics used by Senate Judiciary Chairman Langer of North Dakota to embarrass the administration and Chief Justice Earl Warren had a most undramatic ending in the Senate Monday.

Warren was confirmed by a voice vote after a brief explanation by administration leaders, without a single audible "no." Even Langer voted for confirmation in the full committee when Warren's name was formally sent to the senate for action, and no one opposed him when the showdown came.

This is as it should have been, but he should not have been subjected to the humiliating experience of having a bunch of phony charges treated as if they might be authentic. Nor did the Senate help itself or the prestige of representative government in permitting this situation to drag on for several weeks.

When free institutions are engaged in a life and death struggle with totalitarianism anything that reflects upon the capacity of nations to govern themselves under a free system is much more damaging than it would normally be.

The Senate is contriving to make itself look bad on a number of fronts. The conduct of investigating committees like McCarthy's is giving it another black eye. The Senate ought to take a look at its outmoded ways of doing things and streamline a bit.

NEVER-NEVER LAND



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Stevens Intended to Quit Before McCarthy Hazing

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — Mrs. Robert Stevens, charming wife of the much-betrayed secretary of the army, was talking to a group of ladies at a social function just a few days before Senator McCarthy put him on the spot.

"My husband," she said, "only agreed to stay in Washington a short time. We can't stay in government too long."

"What you republicans seem to believe in is government by interlude," interposed Betty Beale, sprightly columnist for the Washington Star. "You seem to think that running the government is something you can learn in one short year and then go off and forget. The democrats on the other hand, make government a career. They know it's a tough job, so they stay at work at it."

Now that Mrs. Stevens' sincere but politically naive husband has been subjected to the most disagreeable McCarthy brain-wash so far given an Eisenhower cabinet member, his disinclination to stay in Washington is not likely to change. It's almost certain that after a discreet lapse of time, he will quietly bow out.

Increasing U.S. Isolation
Meanwhile, his tangle with McCarthy spotlights two important problems of government which have become increasingly difficult during the Eisenhower administration.

Problem No. 1 is that of getting good men to serve in government. Because of low salaries this has always been difficult. But in view of McCarthy's attacks, it's become even more difficult. No important business executive wants to give up a good job (Stevens surrendered his stock in the largest textile firm in the world) for the privilege of coming to Washington to get clubbed over the head by McCarthy for something he may know little about.

Problem No. 2 is even more serious. It's the growing division not only in the republican party but in the nation.

The division is not dissimilar to that which occurred before the disaster of Pearl Harbor awakened the American people and knit them into one team. And as before Pearl Harbor, the division takes two drifts:

Drift No. 1 is toward isolation. This is a revival of the traditional trend inside the republican party to erect high tariff barriers, drastically curtail the armed forces, and pull away from the rest of the world.

Herbert Hoover's administration was badly split over isolation. Eventually the high tariff isolationists helped to wreck the economy. And the international isolationists pulled Hoover far enough away from the liberal republicans led by Henry L. Stimson, so that they helped precipitate World War II.

Drift No. 2 is toward intolerance and dissension.

Fifteen years ago, the American people were plagued with such breeders of dissension as Gerald Winrod, Fritz Kuhn, William Dudley Pelley, and others who spread hate and poison among their fellowmen.

Today, the Winrods have come out of their holes again and are spreading the same kind of poison. The names are different now—Colonel Williams, Gerald L. K. Smith, The Liberty Bells, The Minute Women. Some of them, such as the boycotting ladies of Texas who prevent any point of view from being discussed except their own, probably don't realize how they are being used.

But the net result is to increase division and dissension among the American people.

Senator McCarthy's investigations, whether intentional or unintentional, have focused on certain religious groups, thus increasing this dissension. His support of a chief investigator who claimed the Protestant clergy was riddled with communism, unfortunately set back the cooperation which had been growing between Catholics and Protestants.

Cardinal Spellman's public statement endorsing McCarthy has given the mistaken impression that McCarthy is an instrument of the church, and unfortunately the public forgets that both Catholic clergy and lay Catholics are just as divided on McCarthy as non-Catholics, with the Jesuit magazine "America" sometimes vigorously critical of him. But forgetting this fact, religious bitterness reminiscent of the Ku Klux Klan days and Senator Tom-Tom Heflin of Alabama has begun to smolder.

They should realize that before the tax can be cut or the exemptions raised, the present administration will have to eliminate all the unnecessary bureaus, commissions, etc., and get the government back on a business basis. They are in poor position, now, to kick about something they fathered in the first place.

J. J. ENRIGHT,
Salem, Ore.

CONGRATULATIONS, SIG
Oregon Voter
Sig Unander, state treasurer, by a change in his inheritance tax staff, has succeeded in substantially increasing inheritance tax collections, especially by picking up items which were not reported.

TWAS HIS OWN CAR
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Harry H. Kamp, a two-truck driver, cast an expert's glance at the smashed Cadillac and agreed with police: "Yep, it's a bad one, all right." Then he took another look at the wreck he was supposed to tow away.

IT'S A THIN LINE
F. W. S. in Silvertown Appeal-Tribune
The difference between an optimist and a cheerful liar isn't too much.

OPEN FORUM

Democrats' Concern For Taxpayers Amuses

To the Editor:
It amuses me to read where the Democrats, now, after these many years, are asking that the income tax be reduced and the exemptions and credits for dependents raised.

It seems to me they have poor memories or they would recall that it was the Democrats who put both the tax rate and the lowered exemptions into effect. Then they immediately created bureau after bureau, commission after commission, until they had more government employees on the payroll than had even been there before.

They should realize that before the tax can be cut or the exemptions raised, the present administration will have to eliminate all the unnecessary bureaus, commissions, etc., and get the government back on a business basis. They are in poor position, now, to kick about something they fathered in the first place.

J. J. ENRIGHT,
Salem, Ore.

Salem 60 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

March 2, 1894
Total debt of the United States had been shown to be \$1,007,385,015.

Passenger rates on steamer Ellwood operating between Salem and Portland had been reduced to 50¢ per person. Not to be outdone, steamer Altona, with a rate of \$1.25, had reduced the price of meals to 25¢.

During the month of February 51 years ago, Salem had but one death aside from those who died in state institutions.

First inmate to inhabit Salem's new city jail got five days from Recorder Edes for vagrancy.

Charles Clark, receiver for Oregon Pacific railroad, had advertised that the short route to California was via Yaquina bay and the steamer Del Norte to San Francisco.

Sander's Electric company, Portland, had a Capital Journal advertisement saying that the Dr. Sander's electric belt would relieve rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, kidney complaints and lame back.

Miss O. Ballou, principal, had charge of Salem kindergarten at the corner of Court and Liberty streets.

THE WORLD TODAY

Dulles Goes Like Man Chasing a Fire

By JAMES MARLOW

Washington (AP)—John Foster Dulles, 66 last Friday, works like a man trying to keep two steps ahead of a fire. In his case, it's the Communist fire.

He has been secretary of state just over a year. In that time he has traveled 83,361 miles in pursuit of peace and American security, the equivalent of more than three times around the globe.

He's been all over Western Europe—including Paris three times, London twice, Bonn twice—and to North Africa, the Middle East, as far west as Korea, as far east as India, and to New York five times.

His routine is: up by 7 a.m., home by 7 p.m. and to bed by midnight. His recreation is limited mostly to reading detective stories, watching birds, and swimming when he can.

He has a sharp sense of public relations, reads four or five papers a day, has made national broadcasts several times, plus speeches before organizations. He's had more news conferences than any other Eisenhower cabinet member.

He's had 24 of them at the State Department, and others outside Washington.

At 8:15 a.m. he reaches the office. At 9 he has a 15-minute conference with his undersecretary, Walter Bedell Smith. At 9:15 he has a staff conference with Smith and his assistant secretaries.

At 10, a couple of days a week, he goes to the White House for a cabinet meeting or a meeting of the National Security Council. During the day he must receive foreign diplomats or anyone else of enough importance to need his ear.

During his first year, the State Department underwent its biggest shakeup in 20 years.

Besides being ultimately responsible for the handling of friends and foes everywhere, Dulles must deal with Congress, many times personal appearances to ask for money for his department or to explain or defend his handling of foreign affairs.

It hasn't been a completely blissful relationship. He's been criticized in the Capitol. He's had some struggles with Sen. McCarthy (R., Wis.)

He takes work home with him. Sometimes on Saturday afternoons—he works at the office Saturday mornings—or on Sunday he has a stenographer come out to his house for dictation.

He attends perhaps two diplomatic dinners a week, besides having friends in for private dinners. And State Department people and government officials sometimes visit him at home for uninterrupted conferences.

This display of energy, according to those around him, is not new. He gave an example of it 12 days ago after battling Russia's Foreign Minister Molotov at the Big Four conference in Berlin.

That conference broke up Feb. 18. At 8 o'clock that night Dulles flew out of Berlin, stopped at Bonn to talk with West Germany's Chancellor Adenauer, took off again at 11:30 p.m., stopped at Bermuda the next day for a swim in 57-degree water, and arrived in Washington that night.

On that trip home, his aides say, he dictated to a secretary some of the report he made to the nation last Wednesday night. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday last week he held sessions with congressional leaders to explain what had happened in Berlin.

Somewhere in those three days, with help, he completed his report for Wednesday night.

Yesterday he left for Caracas for the Inter-American conference and on April 26 is expected to go to Geneva for a conference with Britain, France, Russia and Communist China on Korea and Indochina.

Besides the places mentioned earlier in this story, in 1953 he went to Rome, The Hague, Brussels, Luxembourg, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, India, Turkey, Greece, Libya, Princeton, N. J., for a speech, Japan, Boston speech, St. Louis twice for speeches, Denver for a conference with President Eisenhower, Syracuse, N. Y., speech, Cleveland speech, Bermuda for Big Three foreign ministers conference.

Not True in Bend

Bend Bulletin

There has been a lot of criticism of high school athletic programs in various parts of the United States on the grounds that there is too much emphasis on winning.

Faults are said by some authorities to lie with parents, overambitious coaches or school administrators who have lost sight of the basic functions of the school system.

After looking over the records established this year by Bend high school teams, it's not hard to see the local school cannot be blamed for any overemphasis.

Every once in a while a high school class comes along which has less than its share of athletically-inclined boys. That seems to be the case with Bend this year, according to long-time observers of the local sports scene.

At any rate, there's not any talk being heard here about overemphasis. It's one bright spot in an otherwise pretty gloomy athletic picture this year.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Shrove Tuesday Designed to Store Up Memories, Calories

By ED CREAGH

For HAL BOYLE

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Eat, drink and be merry Tuesday. It's Shrove Tuesday, and Lent lasts a long time.

Shrove Tuesday, it's little noticed in most parts of these United States, though there is Mardi Gras in New Orleans and the golden brown potato doughnuts, or fritnachts, sugar the teeth and gladden the spirit in Reading, Pa.

And, after all, aren't the rest of us a pretty long-faced lot to be passing up a celebration which heartier folk have been enjoying since the middle ages.

Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday, has long been a time to store up warm memories—for the Lenten days to come.

In England, where it used to be called "Pancake Tuesday" it was a day of general merry making—the Kentucky Derby day, so to speak, of cock fighting among other pastimes. Church bells summoned one and all not to worship but to wining and dining, and there was even a song about it:

"But hark, I hear the pancake bell
"And fritters make a gallant smell;
"The cooks are baking, frying, boiling,
"Stewing, mincing cutting, broiling,
"Carving, gormandizing, roasting,
"Carbonading, cracking, slashing, toasting."

I don't know who made up that happy catalogue of cooking noises, but he could name his own salary as a writer of television commercials today.

France still makes much of Shrove Tuesday, and in fact invented the name "Mardi Gras" or "Fat Tuesday" for the high jinks.

Why "Fat Tuesday"? Because, unless the dictionary in front of me is wrong, it was and still is in some parts of Northern France the custom to parade a fat ox ceremoniously through the streets.

It also was the custom to use up on Shrove Tuesday the fats which couldn't be eaten during Lent, and that may be why they called it "Fat Tuesday," but you're not going to get me into any argument with a dictionary.

In the south of France, of course, all sorts of revelry burst out at this time of year—which does not distress the tourist industry in the least. In Nice, on the Riviera, a huge king carnival is toted through the flower-decked streets, and pretty dark-haired girls pelt you with poises.

In Finland some people believe there'll be no next summer if a woman spins on Shrove Tuesday. In Belgium some say if you eat cabbage on Shrove Tuesday the caterpillars won't bother your growing cabbage.

Nobody, I suppose, has it quite so good as the kids in Denmark, where for some dark Danish reason Shrove Tuesday is observed on Monday. Anyhow, the kids are let out of school and go around beating on their elders with brightly decorated "Lenten birches," all the time shouting

Senale Seniority

Albany Democrat-Herald

One by-product of the disgraceful conduct of Senator Langer in insulting Chief Justice Warren and holding up action by the senate judiciary committee on his nomination has been to raise the question of how senators move up to important chairmanships.

There has long been dissatisfaction with the straight seniority basis, which has resulted in putting obvious misfits, men unfit to be members of the senate, at the head of key committees. Now it is proposed to modify the rules to give fitness some weight in the matter.

It isn't much easier to change senate rules and procedure than it used to be to alter the laws of the "Medes and Persians" before the days of Mossadegh. Change is overdue, however. It is generally recognized, though, that the original trouble lies in the election of men who aren't big enough for full senatorial responsibility.

WASHINGTON RUMMAGE

Springfield News

Montana woman suggests the government hold a rummage sale to balance the budget. Says there are loads of old stuff in Washington that is not needed.

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