

Solon Accuses State Dept. of 'A Side Issue'

O'Mahoney Says Group Owes Negro Newsmen An Apology

By ERNEST B. VACCARO
WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. O'Mahoney (D-Wyo) accused the State Department today of raising "a side issue" to divert attention from its refusal to permit newsmen to enter Red China.

O'Mahoney said the department "owes an apology" to Negro newsmen William Worthy for testimony the senator said was "intended to show he had been jailed for refusing to go to a conscientious objectors camp" in World War II.

In Chicago, Worthy said he refused to go to a CO camp in 1943 on grounds there was racial discrimination in assignments to such camps. He said he never was prosecuted, but was classified 4-F because of an ulcer.

Member of Group

O'Mahoney is a member of a Senate Constitutional Rights subcommittee inquiring into the State Department's ban against Americans, including newsmen, entering Communist China.

Worthy, who works for the Baltimore Afro-American, defied that ban and visited Red China late last year. Earlier this week, the department turned down his application for a new passport.

Yesterday, Robert Cartwright, acting director of the State Department's Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, testified that a William Worthy pleaded guilty in Federal District Court at Philadelphia in 1944 to a charge of refusing to report to a conscientious objectors camp, served a day in jail and later went to the camp.

'Doesn't Jibe'

Sen. Hruska (R-Neb) said that did not jibe with recent testimony of newsmen Worthy that he was classified 4-F and was never under any charge.

Reached in Chicago later, Worthy said he was classified as a conscientious objector in 1943 but refused to go to a CO camp because of racial discrimination in assignments to camps.

He said that there was no charge of "draft-dodging or evasion" and that the Department of Justice dropped prosecution "rather than face a court test on the racial discrimination issue," and "after it learned I was eligible for a 4-F exemption for a duodenal ulcer."

Worthy said he did not serve any time in jail and "I never went to a conscientious objectors camp."

'Reputation Unsullied'

O'Mahoney said Worthy's statement "completely disposes of the allegation" and that Worthy's "reputation as a citizen is unsullied."

But Hruska said he would ask the subcommittee to obtain a full report of the Philadelphia court proceedings to "set the record straight."

"The charge against Worthy is a side issue, which was apparently brought up by the State Department for the purpose of diverting attention from the basic issue," O'Mahoney told an interviewer.

"That issue is whether the American press is entitled to send its accredited representatives to any area of the world in which the interests of the American people are at stake."

'Made' Lumber Seen in Future

VICTORIA, B.C. (AP)—A glimpse into the future—when lumber may be manufactured instead of saved—has been taken by M. J. Foley, president of the Powell River Co.

Foley forecast rapid progress within the next few years in the manufacture of synthetic lumber or shaving boards.

He spoke at the 12th annual Olympic Logging Conference which opened here with 200 lumbermen from the U.S. Pacific Northwest in attendance.

Processed lumber opens up big possibilities, Foley said. He added some of the new boards appear superior to lumber because they do not shrink or expand noticeably with changing atmospheric conditions.

"The day when we make more of our lumber than we saw may not be as far away as we think," Foley said.

School Aid Bill Lists \$11 Million For NW Building

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal funds totalling \$11,509,000 would be made available for Pacific Northwest school construction under the terms of a bill which received the approval of a House education subcommittee Thursday.

Based on figures for the 1953-54 school year the bill would allot the following amounts:

Washington, \$5,612,000, or \$10.15 for each school age child; Oregon, \$3,874,000, or \$10.79 for each school age child; Idaho, \$2,023,000, or \$12.97 for each school age child; Alaska would receive \$331,000, or \$14.74 for each school age child.

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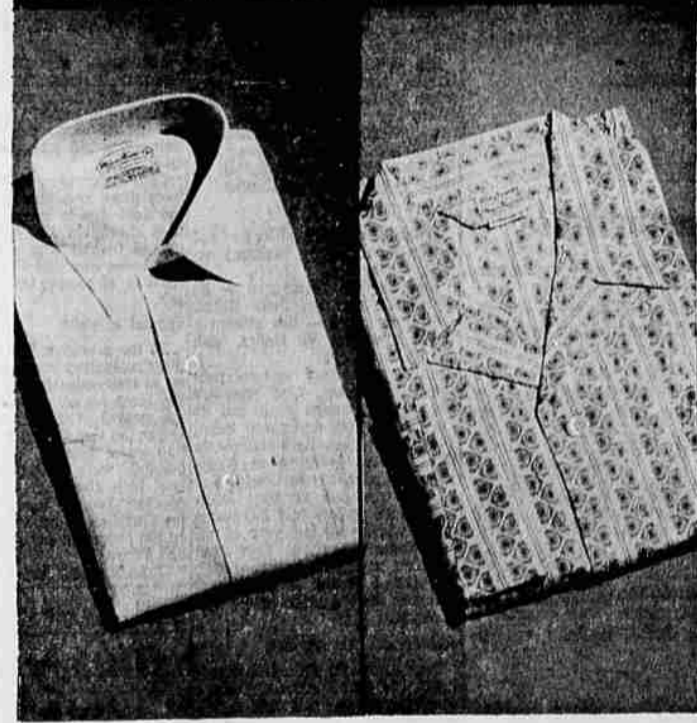
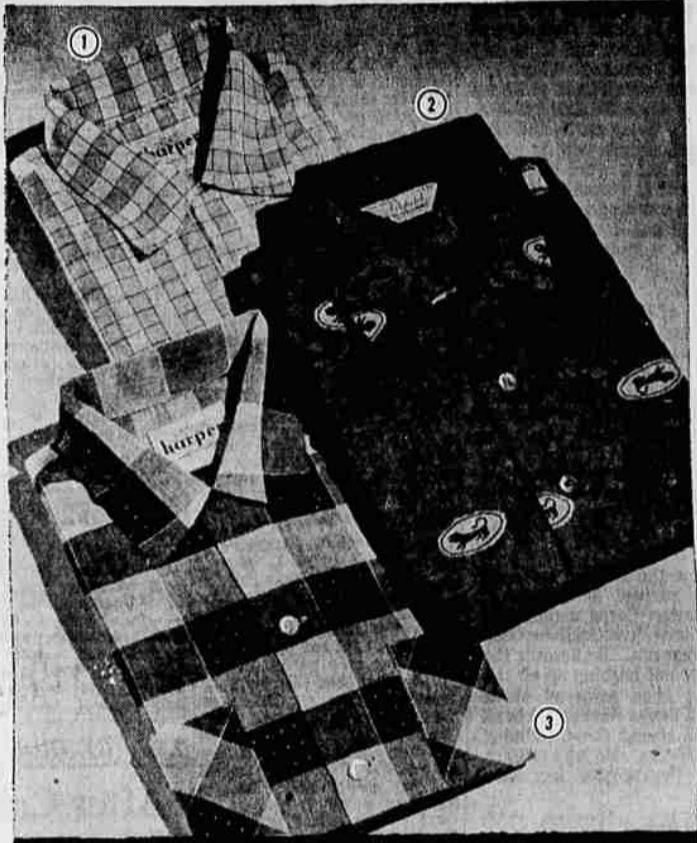
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