

Senator Favors Law Making Justices of Supreme Court Experienced Jurists



WIRING Senate probers he is "too busy" to testify, Murray Chotiner, Los Angeles attorney, faces subpoena in inquiry on U. S. clothing deals. (International)

Red China Lacks Right To Defense

Brussels, Belgium—(U.P.)—The International committee against Concentration Camp Practices has found that a citizen does not have any right to defense in Communist China.

The committee held a mock trial of the Chinese Republic over the past 10 days and disclosed its findings yesterday.

The Red China government was invited to send a defense counsel but did not answer the invitation.

The court found "millions of Chinese are undergoing forced labor," but found it impossible to estimate the number accurately.

It found also that forced labor plays an important part in the economy of Red China.

"The penal system deprives the citizen of any effective right to defense," the committee found.

The mock court held that Communist China "blatantly practices a regime of concentration camps similar to those in Russia and formerly in Nazi Germany."

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday, 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

Back Stairs: Accrual Basis Accounting

By Merriman Smith
Washington — (U.P.) — Back stairs at the White House: Budget Director Percival Brundage seldom holds press conferences. When he does, he tries to make his bewildering world of government disance seem as logical and understandable as possible.

At the White House late last week, Brundage was trying to explain a new system of federal cost accounting on an accrual basis. The reporters must have appeared puzzled, so the dignified budget director shifted his fiscal gears.

"Suppose you go to the liquor store and buy four or five cases of whiskey on a cash basis," he said hopefully. "Your books would show an outlay of several hundred dollars for April, but would show nothing for May or June when, presumably, you still would be consuming your original purchase."

Whether Brundage was "talking down" to the reporters or trying to be understandable is a moot point. But one newsman observed:

"It could have been worse—"

Quadruplets Born To Texas Woman, 25

Dallas, Tex. — (U.P.) — A 25-year-old wife of an aircraft worker gave birth to quadruplet girls last night and early today.

The mother, Mrs. George A. Hunter, and the babies were all reported "doing well" at day-break in Methodist hospital.

The 27-year-old father, who works at the Chance Vought Aircraft plant, said he was "Pretty excited," at the multiple births, while Mrs. Hunter's first reaction to the news was, "Oh, no, I want two boys."

The hunters have one other child, a girl less than 18 months old.

LOST WEAPONS

Hartford, Conn. — (U.P.) — A Connecticut Company bus driver turned a woman's handbag into the firm's lost and found department. The bag contained only a switch-blade knife and a set of false teeth.

Lower Federal Bench Training Seen as Remedy

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Correspondent
Washington — (U.P.)—Congress has ample authority to bar from appointment to the Supreme Court any but trained and experienced jurists. As of now it is not even necessary to be a lawyer to qualify for the court.

Sen. George Smathers (D-Fla.) wants a law passed to change that. Although he did not say so, Smathers evidently feels that the present court offended the judicial proprieties in its recent rulings on racial integration. The rulings appear to Smathers to be more in the area of legislation or policy-making than in judicial determination.

His remedy would be a requirement that five years on a lower federal bench or on the bench of a state supreme court would be a qualification for membership on the U. S. Supreme Court.

Congress could do that, or require that all justices be re-hired, for that matter. The Constitution merely said there could be one "Supreme Court" and left to Congress its composition. Congress has been tinkering with the court ever since it was created in 1789. By 1896 the number of associate justices had been changed six times.

Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

Washington — President Eisenhower on the death of Senator and former Vice-President Alben W. Barkley:

"As vice-president of the United States, Mr. Barkley had a long and distinguished record of public service for the people of his state and country. The nation is poorer by this tragic event."

Huron, S. D.—Former President Truman, upon learning of the death of Senator Alben W. Barkley, who served under him as vice-president:

"He was one of the finest men I ever knew. He was a great congressman, a great senator and one of the greatest vice-presidents of this nation, and a citizen that the United States can always be proud of."

Boston—U.S. Rep. Thomas J. Lane (D-Mass.) as he tearfully pleaded guilty to evading \$38,543 in federal income taxes:

"Though I have pleaded guilty, deep down in my heart I know there has never been a willful evading of taxes."

Washington—Soviet Seaman Viktor Solovjev, telling a Senate committee of how two Russian agents tried to pressure him into returning home:

"I was afraid. There were two of them, and they would do with me whatever they would like."

Moscow—Russian Premier Nikolai A. Bulganin, on his return to the USSR from Britain:

"The Soviet government is in favor of establishing good relations with the USA, and we shall do everything in that direction."

German Wehrmacht Violates Agreements

Berlin — (U.P.) — Some 3000 soldiers, sailors and airmen of Red Germany's recently proclaimed Wehrmacht openly violated four-power agreements today and goose-stepped through the streets of Berlin.

Charged With Seditious

John B. Powell is shown outside his San Francisco home after he was indicted by the federal grand jury on charges of seditious. Powell is the former editor and owner of now defunct China Monthly Review in Shanghai, allegedly used by the Chinese Reds in brain-washing of American prisoners during Korean war.

Northwest Rivers Continue To Fall

Portland — (U.P.) — Northwest rivers continued to fall today and the weather bureau said the falling trend in the lower Columbia and Willamette in the Portland area would continue for at least the next four days.

The Columbia at Vancouver this morning was down to 19.1, a drop of .8 of a foot since yesterday. It still was about 4 feet over flood stage.

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Charged with seditious

German Wehrmacht Violates Agreements

Berlin — (U.P.) — Some 3000 soldiers, sailors and airmen of Red Germany's recently proclaimed Wehrmacht openly violated four-power agreements today and goose-stepped through the streets of Berlin.

The cream of Soviet-zone armed forces, appeared in public for the first time since their existence as officially acknowledged, paraded down Unter Den Linden avenue on the route formerly followed by Adolph Hitler's Nazi troops.

FEMININE GENDER

Des Moines, Ia. — (U.P.)—Boys are eligible to vote here. They are twins, Margaret R. and Martha G. Boys, 21.

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Smathers' proposed law would hamper politicking in Supreme Court appointments. President Truman, for example, once discovered that the best fitted man for an existing Supreme Court vacancy was a Republican U.S. senator from Ohio.

Two Had Experience

Of present court members, Associate Justices John M. Harlan and Sherman Minton had previous experience on a federal bench. Associate Justice Hugo L. Black racked up 18 months, in his youth, as a county judge in Alabama. The others, including Chief Justice Earl Warren, were lawyers but never had been on the gavel side of a judicial bench until they joined the high court.

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The Democratic governor of Ohio promptly filled the ensuing Senate vacancy with a Democrat, reducing the Republican Senate count by one and increasing the Democratic count likewise. President Wilson promoted one of his cabinet to the Supreme Court early in his first term. The story was that the promoted gentleman was ill-tempered and unhandy around the cabinet table.

Direct Election Provided
Smathers' proposed reform probably would be about as effective with the court as the 17th Amendment to the Constitution was effective with the Senate. That Amendment (1912) provided for direct election of senators. It relieved state legislatures of that duty, the idea being that many legislatures corruptly sold the seats or stupidly sent to the Senate blow-hards and second raters.

The amendment dealt well with corruption, but the average of noisy second raters on Capitol Hill does not change much. It would be very difficult to prove that the 17th Amendment increased at all the average of Senate intelligence or public service. It may, even, have diminished both.

Previous judicial experience would not assure good Supreme Court performance. Lack of it would not forbid a good job. The late Louis D. Brandeis and Harlan Fisk Stone for example, had no judicial experience when named to the Supreme Court.

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