

Rumors Say Big Name Demos May Become Targets of Income Tax Violation Charges

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Correspondent
Washington—(U.P.)—This presidential campaign is getting rough, as witness some remarks by Rep. Jim Wright (D-Tex.) and a tax-fraud trial which began Monday in St. Louis.

Wright reported congressional cloak room rumors that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) had been instructed to look sharp for income tax violations by big name Democratic politicians. The congressman told questioners he had heard that some names had been suggested to the IRS for special investigation.

Such things have happened here. Indiana's late Paul V. McNutt got the income tax treatment in 1939-40 when he presumed to reach for the Democratic presidential nomination. President Roosevelt was playing cozy at the time about his own plans, if not actually misleading McNutt and others by private assurances that he had no intention of seeking a third term.

Word Leaks Out
McNutt's campaign was build-

ing up a bit of steam when word leaked to the press that his income tax was under review. This would have been embarrassing or fatal to his political ambitions if the leaks had continued. That was not necessary, however, because practical politicians finally sensed Mr. Roosevelt's intention to accept a third term nomination. All other candidacies folded, forthwith. There is no evidence that the review of McNutt's income tax ever produced anything or, even, was continued to any end.

James A. Farley was Democratic National Committee chairman at the time and no friend of McNutt. They were political enemies. But Big Jim had no part of the embarrassing income tax leak and called it, at the time, a political foul.

There was a squib in the papers last week relating without substantiation that the late Sen. Alben W. Barkley's income tax returns were under review. That might have led to the cloak room rumors heard by Wright. The fact is that the IRS reviews almost all upper bracket returns, and Barkley would have been in the upper bracket. His fee for a speech was a fat one and he made many speeches.

Events probably will prove whether someone in the Repub-

lican administration has passed the word to the IRS to flush up any available income tax dodgers among big name Democrats. If they were flushed up and the charges stuck, it would be difficult to argue that the IRS should have ignored violations. But the leak technique used against McNutt 16 years ago still would be a political foul, especially if the leak was intended merely to embarrass instead of to collect evaded or avoided taxes.

The St. Louis trial is something else again. It is a criminal action based on indictments charging that Matthew J. Connelly and others sought to defraud the government in an income tax case. Connelly is the key figure.

He was President Truman's long-time associate and White House appointments secretary.

Archbishop To Speak Mind on Government

London—(U.P.)—The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, said Monday night he will not yield to attacks on him in the House of Lords and the Cabinet for his criticism of government policies.

"I shall go on allowing myself to say what I think on these topics," he said.

That is a key spot, influential in any administration. Conviction would ruin Connelly and perhaps substantially damage Mr. Truman's political prestige at a moment when he is pointing toward a big role in the 1956 campaign.

Navy Rocket Fails To Set Altitude Mark

White Sands, N.M.—(U.P.)—The Navy today launched its Aero-bee-Hi rocket, shooting for a new altitude record, but the rocket climbed only to 116.5 miles into the atmosphere, far short of a record.

A spokesman said there was no major malfunction and that the launching was a success for purposes of testing the performance of the new rocket.

But he said the performance "was not nearly what had been anticipated."

The Navy had hoped to reach an altitude of 185 miles with the rocket, launched on this vast proving ground.

A previous attempt last week ended in failure when the rocket's motor failed to start and the rocket went up about 10,000 feet, propelled by a booster engine, then dropped back to earth.

Peace Officers Make Plans For Burglars Conference

Members of the Southern Oregon Peace Officers' association at a recent meeting in Medford made tentative plans for a southern Oregon conference on safe burglars to be held sometime in the future.

Purpose of the conference would be to exchange information with other law enforcement agencies on activities of burglars in southern Oregon and to disseminate information which will be received by local delegates to the regional safe burglars conference in Great Falls, Mont.

Action was deferred until the next meeting on a proposal to invite law enforcement officers of Klamath county to become members of the southern Oregon Peace Officers' association.

Attending the meeting here were representatives of all city, county and state law enforcement agencies of both Jackson and Josephine counties.

Special guests at the meeting were Ralph Granquist, director, Internal Revenue bureau, Portland district; George Jamieson, collector of customs; Jim Mansell, deputy customs collector; Jack Savage, chief of the Internal Revenue Bureau intelligence division; Kent Abel Brown, supervising agent, alcohol and tobacco tax unit; Frank J. Kenney, special agent in charge of the U.S. Secret

agencies could work to mutual advantage of all interested in law enforcement.

Entertainment was provided by Jimmy Dunlevy, manager of radio station KYJC, who was made an honorary member of the association.

Current president of the association is Sgt. Lyle Perkins of the Medford city police department.

In 1900 all of the hard-surfaced roads in the U.S. would not have reached from New York to Boston.

Labor Dispute Ties Up San Juan Transportation

San Juan, P.R.—(U.P.)—Labor disputes tied up bus transportation in San Juan Monday.

The Administrative Employers' Brotherhood (AFL-CIO) buses division of the Commonwealth Port Authority, called a strike in support of a closed-shop clause in a new contract under negotiation. Some 250 drivers employed by the bus lines refused to cross the strikers' picket lines.

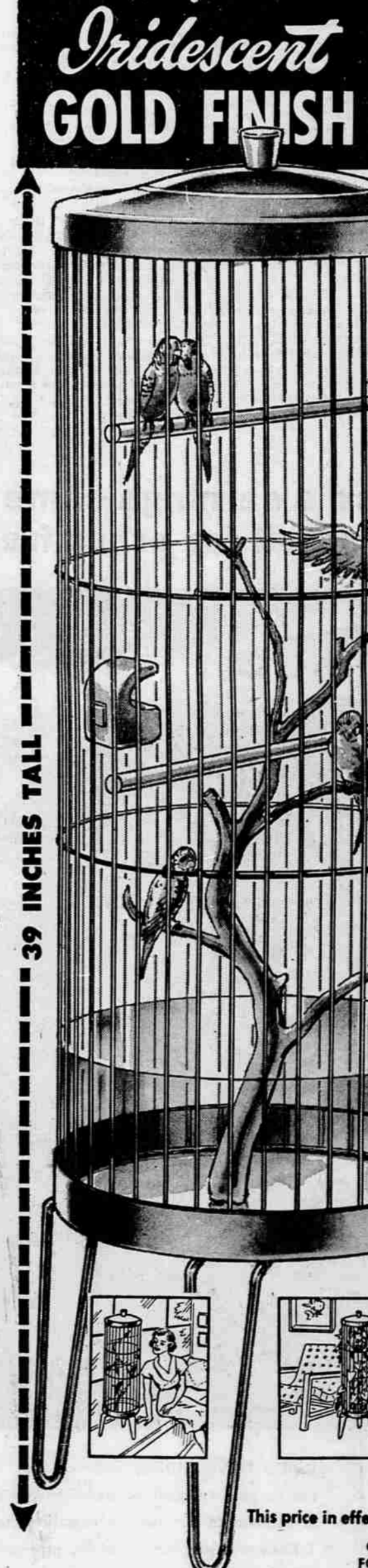
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