

Tourist Season Flops in Alaska

Anchorage, Alaska — (UPI) — What was supposed to be Alaska's biggest tourist season has failed to materialize and businessmen throughout the state are trying to figure out what happened.

A survey taken by United Press International of businessmen, such as gas station operators, gift shop owners, airline officials, travel agents, restaurant owners and hotels indicated that there are 20-25 per cent fewer tourists in Alaska this summer than there were a year ago at this time.

Anchorage travel agent Brad Phillips estimated last month that his business decreased approximately 20 per cent this summer.

George Sharrock, a district sales manager for an airlines (Pacific Northern) said that tourist bookings dropped 20-25 per cent, while A. B. Hayes, sales manager for another airlines (Northwest Orient) said that his company had experienced some cancellations in its tours of Alaska.

William Quinn, manager of Alaska's largest hotel (The Westward), told UPI that the hotel had received tourist cancellations and that he felt fortunate in being able to keep his rooms full.

Robbers Prefer Police Station Area

Sarasota, Fla. — The Union Finance Co., located only one block from the police station, was robbed recently for the third time in four years.

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Congressmen, Editors Pick Top Ten Campaign Issues

Washington — (CQ) — Mr. Khrushchev has created a profound change in American political values; Foreign policy has pushed pocketbook issues out of top spot as the most important issue in the 1960 election campaign.

This is the opinion of the nation's leading newspaper editors and Members of Congress who have just been polled by Congressional Quarterly.

In polls taken by Congressional Quarterly since 1956, such issues as "inflation," "prosperity," "Eisenhower's performance" and "cost of living" dominated the picture, in the opinion of the editors and Congressmen.

But this year, 364 editors who answered the poll overwhelmingly put "foreign policy" first. The 204 Senators and Representatives who answered put it second behind "medical care for the aged."

Third most important issue this year for both groups was "farm policy."

Poll Results
The 10 top issues with the editors this year, in order, were:
Foreign Policy
Medical Care for the Aged
Farm Policy
Military Preparedness

Eisenhower's Performance
Cost of Living
Handling of Summit
Federal Spending
Federal Aid to Education
Religion in Politics
Among members of Congress, these were the top 10, in order:
Medical Care for the Aged
Foreign Policy
Federal Spending
Federal Aid to Education
Military Preparedness
Cost of Living
Handling of Summit
Eisenhower's Performance
Import Competition

Mr. K's Influence
Since Soviet Premier Khrushchev broke up the summit conference, denounced President Eisenhower, called off the disarmament meetings and generally warmed up the Cold War, and since the U.S. setback that forced cancellation of the President's visit to Japan, the emergence of foreign policy as a matter of primary concern is not unexpected.

Current debate in Congress — which will continue in the August session — has guaranteed a prominent place for medical care for the aged in this year's campaign.

And continued dilemma of high price-support costs and commodity surpluses, and Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson's policies have kept farm problems in the limelight.

Just before the 1956 Presidential election, the leading issue, in the opinion of the editors and Congressmen, was "Eisenhower's age and health." But the President had announced his intention of running for another term then, something that is not a factor this year.

Before the Congressional elections of 1958, the editors thought "cost of living" was the most important issue and Congressmen cited "federal spending and taxing."

Fits Like a Glove
That is where Johnson could fit like a glove. An organizational genius free of fixed ideas, he is admirably qualified to persuade his admiring Southern colleagues. Whether he would do so may be open to question, given his disputes with Senate liberals over legislative strategy. But there is nothing in the record to suggest that Johnson, as Vice President, would not give vigorous and effective support to the requests of a Democratic President.

Guidebook Lists Major Buildings
New York — (UPI) — A construction company here commemorating the 100th anniversary of its founding has issued a 44-page, four-color brochure which is literally a guidebook to many of the Eastern Seaboard's notable buildings and institutions.

The brochure lists more than two dozen of the many buildings constructed by Verilya-Brown Co., including the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., the New York Telephone Co. headquarters, and the new Hospital for Special Surgery here.

It points out little-known facts about many of the structures. For example, it reports, the telephone building is notable construction-wise for the fact that 22 caissons sunk to bedrock form a continuous cofferdam around the site and provide space for basements below street level.

The Hospital for Special Surgery is unusual because it is wedge-shaped so the occu-

Johnson May Be Key Man in Fulfilling Demos' Pledges

Washington — (CQ) — The key man in fulfilling those bold pledges in the 1960 Democratic platform could well be none other than the Senator from Texas, Lyndon B. Johnson.

Winning the South's 146 electoral votes in November was reason enough for Presidential Nominee John F. Kennedy to pick the Senate Majority Leader to be his running mate. But the choice of Johnson bore as well on a longer-range challenge: how to enlist the support of conservative Democrats in Congress in redeeming the lavish promises of a liberal platform.

Many of these pledges are carbon copies of proposals pushed by Sen. Kennedy and other Republicans. Barring a landslide of 1936 proportions, Kennedy, if elected, is going to need the support of conservatives on a number of key issues.

Till-Tapper Draws Two-Year Sentence
Corvallis — (UPI) — Gillis High, 34, who dropped \$680 and fled when he attempted to tap a till at Philomath, was sentenced Tuesday to two years in the Oregon prison.

Circuit Judge Fred McHenry meted the sentence after High admitted his guilt. He and another man, both from Sacramento, Calif., had plucked the money from the till at the Philomath Hardware and Grocery when a clerk spotted them. The clerk shouted and High dropped the money as he ran out of the store.

New Theory Found For Iron Rusting

Pittsburgh — (Science Service) — A new basic explanation for the rusting of iron, one of the most destructive and wasteful chemical reactions known, has been found by scientists at Westinghouse Research Laboratories here.

Iron corrosion is believed to waste up to \$7 billion annually in the U.S. alone. Eighty million dollars alone are spent by automobile owners replacing mufflers each year.

The new theory suggests that hydrogen ions are the culprit. The hydrogen ions come from water vapor, which must be present if iron rusts very much at room temperature. The tiny hydrogen particles are thought to penetrate the iron and enlarge the sites at which oxygen normally combines with the metal.

Previous explanation for iron corrosion was that it is an electrochemical reaction, somewhat like that occurring in an ordinary battery. The new theory suggests that something more fundamental takes place in the iron, although an electrochemical reaction may also be present.

The statement that the armed forces "should be organized more nearly on the basis of function" goes to the heart of a bitter interservice struggle, and could mark the beginning of another major drive for reorganization.

Yet in 1958, when Congress passed a watered-down version of President Eisenhower's modest reorganization proposals, House Democrats voted overwhelmingly to reject toughening amendments demanded by the President. The vote was 192-211 (D 20-196; R 172-15).

System Condemned

Immigration — As in 1956, the 1960 Democratic platform condemns the national origins quota system written into U.S. immigration laws in 1921 and perpetuated by the McCarran-Walter Act of 1952, which was passed over President Truman's veto with the help of Democratic majorities in both Senate and House. Congress, however, has steadfastly ignored President Eisenhower's plea for a new immigration law. Both Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.), top authority in the House, are quite satisfied with the quota system as it is, and it will take a miracle to convert or circumvent them.

Interest Rates — The blunt promise that "a Democratic President will put an end to the present high interest, tight money policy" is a guarantee of fireworks ahead, in and out of Congress. Although historically committed to easy credit and low interest rates, many Democrats would oppose any effort to fiddle with the independence of the Federal Reserve System or its power to regulate the nation's money supply.

Taxes — In pledging to "close the loopholes in the tax laws by which certain privileged groups legally escape their fair share of taxation," the platform singles out the depletion allowance, the 4 per cent tax credit on dividend income, and "extravagant" business expense deductions. Earlier in 1960, the Senate and a majority of Democrats voted to repeal the dividend tax credit and to limit business expense deductions, but House conferees refused to accept either provision. As for limiting the depletion allowance — a platform "first" in 1960 — such a proposal was rejected in the Senate by a majority of Democrats as well as Republicans, by a vote of 30-56 (D-22-31;

R 8-25). Tax reform, when it comes, will set off an epic battle between conflicting interest groups, all ably represented in Congress.

Promises for Farmer

Farm Policy — As usual, the farmer "full parity income" with the help of price supports "at not less than 90 per cent of parity." But there is no assurance that urban Democrats are prepared to swallow the old formulas for raising farm income and cutting surpluses. The House recently killed a wheat bill jacking up price supports, by a vote of 171-236 (D 162-100; R 9-136), and most of the 100 Democrats voting "nay" were from the cities. No task facing the next administration, whether Democratic or Republican, will be tougher than to write a farm program that will work and that can be enacted.

Civil Rights — As the Southern minority report indicated, there was nothing in

the 1960 plank on civil rights to encourage a belief that Democrats will soon unite on this divisive issue. The bold promises of the liberal wing will serve an important campaign function in November. But whether a victorious President Kennedy would press for immediate legislative fulfillment is open to question. A key adviser at that point might well be Lyndon B. Johnson.

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