

Nomination of Meriwether Gets OK of Committee

Washington - (UPI) - The Senate Banking committee Thursday approved President Kennedy's controversial nomination of Charles Meriwether, 49, as a director of the Export-Import Bank. The vote was 5-4.

Chairman A. Willis Robertson (D-Va.) announced the one-vote margin of approval after Meriwether was sharply questioned for more than two hours about his past political associations with members of the Alabama Ku Klux Klan.

A committee source said the four who opposed the nomination of the Alabama were Democratic Sens. Joseph Clark (Pa.), William Proxmire (Wis.), Maurice Neuberger (Ore.), and New York Republican Sen. Jacob K. Javits.

Robertson told reporters he hoped to send the controversial appointment to the Senate floor by Monday.

Two senators abstained from voting and three others were absent Thursday. Voting in favor were Sens. Robertson, John Sparkman (D-Ala.), Wallace F. Bennett (R-Utah), William Blakley (D-Tex.), and Prescott Bush (R-Conn.).

Meriwether testified that he had never been a member of the Klan and was not in sympathy with its concepts of public service.

He was questioned for more than an hour by Javits about his dealings with R. M. (Boss) Shelton, Tuscaloosa, described by Javits as a grand dragon of the Klan and a militant anti-Negro and anti-Semitic agitator.

Two Appear in District Court

In district court action Thursday, Jake Albert Toews, 19, of 755 Queens dr., Medford, was sentenced to one year in Jackson county jail by District Judge L. L. Sawyer.

Toews, who had been placed real property, had his probation revoked by the court for illegal possession of intoxicating liquor. One of the conditions of his probation was to refrain from drinking liquor.

Dennis W. Smith, 28, general delivery, Medford, was arraigned on a charge of obtaining property by false pretenses, and bound over to the grand jury after waiving the right to a preliminary hearing and attorney.

A previous charge of making a false statement in writing to procure benefit was dismissed on the motion of the district attorney.

Smith is being held in the county jail on \$1,500 bail. Appearing in circuit court before Judge Edward C. Kelly was Richard Crane, 47, transient, who pleaded innocent to a charge of obtaining property by false pretenses.

LACKS INTEREST

Washington - (UPI) - A travel agency's plan for a 15-day trip to the ancestral home of President Kennedy's family has collapsed. The Lanseair Agency of Washington offered the tour late in January, billed as "a Kennedy tour to Ireland for all good men and ladies of the name of Kennedy and their friends." Far less than the expected 50 persons signed up. No one named Kennedy wanted to go.

Another GOP House Leader-party whip Winton Hunt of Woodburn-says Duncan is a changed man this session. The new attitude, he said, is: "Duncan can do no wrong."

A number of top Democrats would like to see Duncan carry the banner in 1962. But odds are he would have a primary fight. Among those mentioned for governor are Atty. Gen. Robert Y. Thornton; Sen. Alfred Corbett (D-Portland); and Sen. Walter J. Pearson (D-Portland).

Another important question is: Who wants to run against Mark Hatfield?

The Republican chief says he wants another term. Republicans say Hatfield is still at the height of his popularity-perhaps at a higher peak. Democrats say Hatfield has lost ground in the past two years.

Duncan is known to have a strong dislike for Washington, D. C., and this is one factor that has kept him from running for Congress in his home district.

He has shown no interest in secretary of state, state treasurer or attorney general. These three offices are not up for grabs in 1962 anyway.

This leaves the governorship.

DIES AFTER CAPTURE

Houston, Tex. - (UPI) - Service station employees caught Jack Harris, 53, an ex-convict, trying to rifle the cash register Thursday night and grabbed him before he could run away. Policeman Jack Woodard arrived a few minutes later and as he slipped a pair of handcuffs on Harris the suspect slumped over. Harris was dead, apparently of a heart attack.

Knights To Initiate Members Sunday



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Bills Approved By Legislature

Salem - (UPI) - Measures approved Thursday by the Oregon Legislature:

SB189 - Relating to bonds and debts.

SB344 - Providing newspapers for senators.

SB344 - Relating to financial responsibility.

SB348 - Relating to protection of forest land from fire.

SB457, 468 - Relating to practice of medicine, surgery and osteopathy.

HB1029 - Providing for safety devices at railroad crossings.

HB1070 - Clarifying campaign financial reporting laws.

HB1074 - Election supplies.

By the House

HB1222 - Permitting Clackamas County patients to be admitted to Dammsch hospital.

SB4 - Letting counties complete reapportionment before changing assessment ratios.

SB 115 - Relating to elections.

Consultations Held With SOC Officials

Ashland - Weld S. Carter, national representative for the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation of New York City, visited the Southern Oregon college campus March 1 and 2, for a series of consultations with administrative and faculty officials regarding Henry George, 19th century philosopher-economist.

According to Dr. Arthur S. Taylor, chairman of the SOC social science division, the foundation was set up by Robert Schalkenbach, a fluent printer and admirer of George's theories and predictions in respect to the American economic system.

George, one of the foremost economists of his day, predicted that the American economic system would gradually evolve into a "humanitarian capitalism," that is, one in which the making of money, the uses of it, and the influence gained by its possession, would be based upon a thoroughly ethical philosophy of the "greatest good for the greatest number."

Carter's survey, which is being made in every college and university in the United States, is to determine the extent of the influence of George's theories as evidenced in today's college classrooms and libraries.



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Foreign Car Future in America Excellent, Importer Declares

By HENRY J. BECHTOLD UPI Financial Editor

New York - (UPI) - There is an excellent future for foreign cars in this country despite the sharp decline in sales in 1960.

This is the belief of A. E. Birt, whose car-importing organization earns more dollars for Britain than any other individual in this country.

For those who prophesy trouble for the foreign car industry here, Birt noted that last year was the second best in the comparatively short history of mass imports of foreign cars.

Ten years ago foreign cars in this country virtually were confined to a luxury trade, with only about 16,000 imports coming in a year. By 1959 a record of more than 600,000 new imported cars were sold here, but last year the figure dropped to 444,452 units valued at \$512,974,986.

Birt said this is still a pretty healthy market for many responsible business men. "Detroit has suffered far worse slumps and survived."

Birt is president of Hambro Automotive Corp., which is responsible for sales of British Motor Corp. cars in this country.

Regarding B.M.C. output (the Austin, Austin-Healey, MG and Morris cars) Birt said his firm sold only about 7,500 of these cars here as short a time ago as 1955. The peak of more than 56,000 cars with retail sales of some \$100 million was reached in 1959, and last year this figure dropped to 45,248.

"That may be a lot by Detroit standards," Birt declared, "but in Britain we

feel that's a market well worth keeping and developing."

Birt said he anticipated this leveling off for some time, and feels that it may be a blessing in disguise. "If the same rate of increase had been maintained we would have put General Motors out of business in 10 to 15 years," he declared.

He told United Press International that most of the responsible foreign car importers felt that when sales of imports reached 5 per cent of the overall American total, Detroit would start doing something about the situation.

Anti-Lumumbists

Massacre 44 Civilians

Leopoldville, The Congo - (UPI) - The United Nations reported Thursday that rampaging anti-Lumumbist Congolese soldiers massacred 44 civilians in the native quarter of Luluabourg to avenge the brutal killing of three of their own men by an angry mob.

FOLLOW THE LEADER

Tallahassee, Fla. - (UPI) - Florida Gov. Farris Bryant, who may have gotten the idea from the leader of his party, plans to televise his next news conference. The meeting with newsmen next Thursday in Tampa will mark the first news conference by a Florida governor televised live.

which no American firm can rival, according to Birt. He explained that there is no real mass American sports car, and more than 50 per cent of all sports cars sold in the United States in the past year were B.M.C. products. "We expect to improve on this figure in 1961," he added.

At the same time B.M.C. is producing smaller compacts that have attracted attention around the world. These models carry four adults "comfortably," Birt noted, yet measure only 10 feet long. The unique feature is an engine that is mounted crosswise.

As for the possibility of American reaction to foreign cars on economic grounds, Birt feels that too many Americans benefit from imports for people to take this "short-sighted" view.

"We actually reached 12 per cent before they were able to put the compacts on the market and turn back the tide."

Marginal Importers Affected

American compact cars were cited as the main reason for the decline in foreign car sales here. But Birt pointed out that those firms most affected are the more marginal importers who were unable to back up their auto sales with parts and service.

What are the imported car manufacturers planning to do to combat the American compact in the United States market? B.M.C., for one, will continue to emphasize products

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