



REPUBLICANS MAKE BID—In December of 1862 the Radical Senate Republicans made a bid to take over conduct of the Union side of the Civil War. Their target was Secretary of State William H. Seward, left. Their ammunition was correspondence indicating that the Secretary, not President Lincoln, (center) was running the admin-

istration. A good bit of this ammunition came from the Treasury Secretary, Salmon P. Chase, right. Lincoln, however, was to out-manuever the radicals. The party infighting was to end with Lincoln holding the resignations of both men, neither of which he was to accept. (UPI)

Value of U.S. Farm Land Figured At \$140.1 Billion

Washington — (UPI) — The Agriculture Department says that as of July 1 the value of all farm land in the United States was an estimated \$140.1 billion.

This is \$6.7 billion, or 5 percent, higher than the \$133.4 billion estimated for a year earlier, and \$2.1 billion or 2 percent, higher than the previous record value of \$138 billion on March 1, 1962.

The department's Economic Research Service said the market value of farm real estate has maintained an almost uninterrupted rise that began in the early 1940s.

The area of greatest price strength was the southern portion of the United States. Of the 19 states where market prices of farm land increased 6 percent or more during the year, ended July 1, 17 were contiguous states extending from California through Texas and Florida to Maryland. The only other two states in this group were South Dakota and Wisconsin.

Maine Shows Drop
Maine was the only state to show a drop in farm land value attributed to the low prices July 1, and this was a relatively minor 1 percent. ERS said some of this "stiffness" was attributed to the low prices potato growers received for much of the 1961 crop and the prospect of continued low prices for the 1962 crop.

Farm real estate values increased 2 percent or more in 22 states from March 1 to July 1. Values remained virtually unchanged in 21 states and declined 2 percent or more in the remaining 5. Although the average value of all farm land in the United States rose sharply in these four months, the increase was far from uniform and general-

Eugene Teacher Killed in Crash

By United Press International
The Christmas holiday week end traffic death count in Oregon stood at one Monday.

The victim was Alice Thompson, a 26-year-old Eugene school teacher who was killed Friday night. She died in a one-car accident on U. S. Highway 29, 14 miles west of Burns.

Her car went out of control and overturned after hitting ice on the highway.

Michael R. Williams, a 23-year-old sailor from Gladstone stationed aboard the USS Buchanan, was killed in a one-car crash near Gorman, Calif., Sunday.

The car in which he was riding swerved off a highway and overturned.

DISCLOSES CASUALTIES

Port Said, U.A.R. — (UPI) — President Gamal Abdel Nasser said Sunday night that 136 U.A.R. officers and men have been killed fighting on the republican side in Yemen.

"The shoes of each one of them are more precious than the crown of King Saud or the crown of King Hussein," he told a "victory day" rally. Saud, of Saudi Arabia, and Hussein, of Jordan, support the deposed Yemen monarch, Imam El Badr.

Wooden Building for Sale by Government

The Oakland, Calif., Defense Surplus sales office will offer for sale four small wooden buildings at the Samoa Coast Guard station.

The buildings vary in size from 12½ feet by 16½ feet to 29½ feet by 15½ feet.

For further information contact the Defense Surplus Sales office, Defense Logistics Services center, building 502, Naval Supply Center, Oakland.

Bids will be opened in Oakland Jan. 8.

GREETINGS TO SCOUTS

Washington — (UPI) — President Kennedy sent Christmas greetings Sunday to the Boy Scouts of America and to its leaders "who are helping to develop them into responsible young men." Kennedy is honorary president of the Scouts. He is the first American president to have been a Boy Scout, serving as a member of Troop 2, Bronxville, N.Y., for two years.

ONE CONCESSION

Douglas, Isle of Man — (UPI) — T. A. Bridson celebrated his 102nd birthday Sunday with one concession to old age. He postponed until better weather his annual birthday climb up 2,034-foot Snaef Fell, the island's highest peak.

DOGS FOR CHRISTMAS

Framingham, Mass. — (UPI) — Dog control officer Lee Berte has spread Christmas cheer while easing one of his most pressing problems. He distributed 60 homeless dogs from his overcrowded pound to local youngsters.

Sorry this is late, due to illness, we want to take this opportunity to thank all our friends and patients for the beautiful cards sent to us, and wish all of you—

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Dr. and Mrs. Jovett P. Bray

THIS WAS THE CIVIL WAR

Senate Radicals Bow To Lincoln

By MERTON T. AKERS
UPI Correspondent

The Radical Senate Republicans made a bid at mid-December 1862 to take over conduct of the Union side of the Civil War and ran head on into A. Lincoln, politician and master manipulator of men.

On Dec. 16, three days after the disastrous battle of Fredericksburg, the Radicals made their move. Their target was Secretary of State William H. Seward. Their ammunition was a volume of diplomatic correspondence in which Seward had written to U.S. Minister Charles Francis Adams in London some indiscreet passage indicating that the secretary of state — not Lincoln — was running the administration — and furthermore running it against Radical Republican principles.

Late on that Tuesday afternoon of Dec. 16 the 32 Republican Senators met in secret caucus at the Capitol. First they proposed to offer a resolution in the Senate expressing "a want of confidence" in Seward, meaning that they wanted him fired.

Indignation Session
Several conservative senators objected to so dramatic a resolution and the meeting soon turned into an indignation session during which all the old and new charges against Seward were given another airing.

Seward was against the war, the arguments ran, wanted a peace without victory, cared nothing about freeing the slaves and would welcome the seceding states back into the Union without punishment. Some of the diplomatic correspondence seemed to bear out the charges.

Sen. William Pitt Fessenden of Maine said he had been told that there was a backstairs influence which often controlled the apparent conclusions of the government itself. The "backstairs influence," of course, was Seward the cabinet member who had informed Fessenden and the other was Secretary of Treasury Salmon P. Chase. Every man at the caucus knew Chase was a dedicated anti-slavery man and also had his eye on the presidency.

The senators slept over the problem and the next day adopted a resolution reading: "Resolved, that in the judgment of the Republican members of the Senate, the public confidence in the present administration would be increased by a change in and partial reconstruction of the cabinet."

They decided to present it to Lincoln rather than to the full Senate.

Acted Immediately
Before the final vote was taken, Sen. Preston King of New York, a close friend of Seward, left the caucus and hastened downtown to see the secretary of state.

The former governor of New York was sitting before a wood fire smoking an after-dinner cigar when King arrived. The senator quickly told him what the caucus had done.

Seward acted immediately. "They may do as they please about me, but they shall not put the President in a false position on my account," Seward said.

He wrote a few words on a sheet of paper. "Sir, I hereby resign the office of secretary of state, and beg that my resignation may be accepted immediately."

He called his son, Frederick, assistant secretary, told him to write his resignation, too, and to deliver both to the President. King went along. "What does this mean?" Lincoln asked, and King repeated the story of the caucus. Still puzzled, Lincoln walked across to Seward's house. The secretary was firm. His resignation stood.

On Capitol hill the caucusing senators took a vote. The 31 present favored the resolution. King was recorded as not voting.

Sen. Jacob Collamer of Vermont was named chairman of the committee to wait on the President, probably because he was a moderate. All the other committee members were Radicals.

Lincoln agreed to see the delegation at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18. That gave him about 24 hours to determine his strategy — not any too long a time considering his whole administration was shaken by this cabinet fight. If he allowed Seward to resign, the Radicals could claim dominance over the administration. If he retained Seward the Radical senators — solid except for King's abstention — could block any administration measure in the Senate.

Lincoln knew the country would stand for neither.

The next morning — Dec. 19 — Lincoln called a special cabinet meeting. He outlined what the Radical senators had said and proposed that the cabinet meet with him and the committee that night.

The venerable White House witness that night from 7:30 until after midnight the master politician at work.

Read Resolution
The committee of senators and the cabinet assembled in the same anteroom but the senators went in to see the President first. He asked their permission to bring in the cabinet.

To the combined group Lincoln first read the committee resolution, outlined the previous conference and then began defending his methods of dealing with the cabinet. He especially defended Seward.

Most important questions were discussed in cabinet meetings, Lincoln said, but in emergencies he acted without cabinet sanction. But to the decision, once made, the cabinet acquiesced.

With that he turned to the cabinet members and asked: "Did they not?"

All eyes turned to Chase. Everyone in the room knew the charges against Seward originated with Chase. Angerily the secretary of treasury said he had not come to the meeting to "be arraigned."

Both Welles and Fessenden recorded Chase's answer.

In general terms their accounts agree that Chase said important questions had been considered by the cabinet, but not thoroughly enough and, once a policy had been laid down, acquiescence had been the rule.

The meeting broke up on that note with the Radicals angry at Chase for not standing up for his previous statements to the senators against Seward.

Early the next morning Welles, after a sleepless night, saw the President and urged him to stand fast against accepting Seward's resignation. Lincoln agreed and said if he surrendered now the government might cave in. He told Welles to see Seward and repeat the words to him.

Assents to Views
Welles did and returned to the White House. There he found Chase and Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton with Lincoln.

"Have you seen the man?" Lincoln asked Welles.

"I have and he assents to our views," Welles replied.

Lincoln turned to Chase and said he had asked him to the White House because he was deeply troubled.

Chase replied that he was troubled, too, and that he had prepared his resignation.

"Where is it?" Lincoln demanded quickly.

As Chase took the paper from his pocket, Lincoln said "Let me have it," and reached for it.

He opened the letter, read it and said:

"This cuts the Gordian knot. I see my way clear."

Lincoln dismissed all three with "the trouble is ended."

Now if Seward went, so would Chase.

Lincoln summed up his victory with a frontier phrase: "Now I can ride. I have got a pumpkin in each end of my bag."

Lincoln wrote on Dec. 22 to both the secretaries that the country needed their services and that he refused to accept their resignations.

Missing Man's Car Located in River

Sweet Home — (UPI) — A car owned by a man last seen Dec. 14 was found in the South Santiam river near here Sunday, the Linn county sheriff's office reported.

Herbert Knippel, 40, Lebanon, was last seen at the Oregon Plywood company. He was reported missing Saturday night by his wife.

The partially submerged car was found in the river at the foot of Clark Mill rd. near the Sweet Home Sand and Gravel pit.

A search of the river was planned, deputies said.

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