

Senate Colleagues Consider Russell Long Unpredictable

By HALE MONTGOMERY
United Press International
Washington (UPI)—Sen. Russell B. Long, scion of the lusty Long dynasty, has spent 14 years in the U. S. Senate. But even his colleagues can't predict today how he may vote tomorrow.

An independent and unpredictable lawmaker, he has been thrust into new prominence this year.

He ranks as the No. 2 Democrat on the tax-writing senate finance committee, moving up to the seat once occupied by the "uncrowned king" of the senate, the late millionaire Sen. Robert S. Kerr, D-Okla.

Often a colorful debator, he isn't shy—just cagey. Hence, it is not clear what role he will play in the congressional fight over President Kennedy's plan for a net \$10.3 billion tax cut.

Long is in position to take over chairmanship of the finance committee upon the departure of 75-year-old Sen. Harry F. Byrd, D-Va.

Open Mind on Taxes
As for Kennedy's tax program, he said he had found "surprisingly little enthusiasm" for it at the capitol. He emphasized, however, that he was keeping "an open mind" and wants to see what kind of a bill the house passes before he commits himself.

He cautioned that if the President insists that revenue-

producing reforms be tied to any tax cuts, it will "jeopardize passage of the bill." He added "I'd be very surprised if some major reforms are not stricken from the bill."

Elected from a mineral-rich state, Long expected to stand with the oil industry in opposing Kennedy's suggested revisions in the 27½ per cent depletion allowance.

Long hammers away at his favorite subject—what he calls the "tight money and high interest rate policies" of the Kennedy administration.

Charges Default
"I went all over the south-

(1980 presidential) election saying we are going to get away from it," he said. "We haven't. I think this administration has defaulted on its promises in this area."

Reminiscent of the kind of share-the-wealth philosophy of his father, Long also thinks corporate monopoly has grown too much. He said Kennedy has a "worse record than any other Democratic administration toward monopoly."

An avowed champion of the "little people," Long always has sponsored higher welfare benefits for the needy, aged, the blind, disabled and dependent children. But this at-

titude is strongly tempered when it comes to Kennedy's controversial program to finance a basic package of health benefits for the nation's 14 million elder citizens through higher social security taxes. He voted against Medicare last year.

Votes With South
On civil rights issues, Long votes with the South, but he is no radical on the racial question. Politically, he has abandoned an ambition to be

governor of his state. He believes his Senate seniority is too valuable now to toss it aside.

"I like to think I am serv-

ing my state better up here," he said.

Now 44, Long bears a remarkable physical resemblance to his flamboyant father, the late Huey (Kingfish) Long. The younger Long was 29 when first elected to the Senate in November, 1948. He turned 30 before he was sworn in on Dec. 30 of that year.

Long is proud of his heritage, but squelches any talk about his becoming another Huey.

"I never tried to be like my father. I'm not. I'm Russell. Trying to act like two people... well, I just can't. Someday I may say something of what I feel about my father, but not now."



FIGHTS FOR TAX CUT—An independent and unpredictable lawmaker, Sen. Russell B. Long (D-La.) will be prominent in President Kennedy's fight for a tax cut this year. Long, son of former Louisiana Gov. Huey Long, now ranks as No. 2 Democrat on the tax-writing Senate Finance committee. (UPI)

The average (median) family income in the United States in 1959, as reported in the 1960 census, was \$5,700.

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Pulcinella's 'Birth' Said Authenticated

Naples, Italy (UPI)—A Seventeenth Century comedian was annoyed by the noise from a carpentry shop adjoining his theater and decided the best way to get rid of the carpenter was to ridicule him.

The result, according to an Italian scholar, was the birth of Pulcinella, the popular Neapolitan puppet known in the English-speaking world as Punch.

Pulcinella, with his mixture of quick wit, dumbness, bragging, aggressiveness and perennial hunger for spaghetti, has long become a symbol of Naples. His adventures, in which he always ends by liberally swinging his club, have made the joy of many generations of children—and quite a few adults as well. But until now his origin was obscure.

Silvio Fiorillo
It was known that he was first played by an actor named Silvio Fiorillo. But from where Fiorillo drew his inspiration had been a matter of heated controversy.

Now Ulisse Prota Giurleo, one of the leading students of Neapolitan antiquities, has come up with good documentary evidence to support it.

Going through the archives of the Naples Archbishopric for the year 1603, he found that Mariotto Pollicenella, aged 45, had a carpentry shop adjoining a theatre. The shop, according to the document, caused a considerable noise and comedian Lullo Fedele complained to Pollicenella against the hammering and sawing.

The carpenter told Fedele to mind his own business. The actor complained to local authorities, but got nowhere.

Tougher Stand
In 1609, Fiorillo's troupe took over from Fedele and the new comedian decided for a tougher stand. When Pollicenella again refused to stop the noise, Fiorillo wrote a new play—"Pollicenella Servo Sciocco" (Pollicenella The Dumb Servant).

The leading character, sure enough, resembled his enemy the carpenter—a hooked nose, a lurchback—and was dressed in a white linen shirt which then was the trademark of carpenters. As a delicate hint of matrimonial troubles, he was carrying a big horn, which later developed into Pulcinella's club.

Prota Giurleo's documents contain no information about the public's or Pollicenella's reaction to the play. But they do show that the following year Pollicenella moved his carpentry shop to another site, a good distance away.

Soviet Tourist Bureau Bombed

Berlin (UPI)—The West Berlin city government Wednesday condemned the bombing of the Soviet tourist bureau here as "only making the situation more difficult."

The blast late Tuesday night smashed the show windows and furnishings of the Soviet Intourist Bureau and damaged surrounding apartments in the center of the city, just off the Kurfuerstendamm main street.

The head of the city government Security department, newly named Deputy Mayor Heinrich Albertz, said "explosives are not a means of solving political problems."

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