

Republicans Expected To Resume Administration Opposition in January

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press International
A decent interval will have passed by the time Congress reconvenes in January and Republicans will be able to resume speaking frankly their opposition to the Kennedy-Johnson program.

The Republicans are handicapped just now by a whimsical fraud variously known as a political truce or a political moratorium. This is a period of grace and seemly conduct most often in effect after some tragedy of national proportions such as the assassination of a president. In the shocked aftermath of such an event, the loyal opposition usually hastens to announce that for the time being it will forego petty politics and nasty cracks about the late leader. If the opposition is caught with a big political clambake scheduled, it is traditional to postpone or to cancel it — as the Republicans cancelled a midwestern meeting at which was to be launched the campaign to reelect the Kennedys (all three of them) from public life.

An Absolute Phony
Such are the outward manifestations of a political truce in the train of national tragedy. It is of no consequence that such a political truce is an absolute phony. The facts, of course, are that the loyal opposition calls the truce against itself. This is done, not so much in respect to the late leader as in the certainty that outrageously

noisy political activity at a time of national grief would offend a great many citizens and, thereby, cost the political activists a lot of votes next time around. You might say that there is a generous helping of self service in any political truce called against itself by the loyal opposition.



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Concerts Slated In Shopping Center

The pre-Christmas shopping season in the Medford Shopping Center will be marked by special entertainment in the mall, merchants of the area have announced.

The Medford High School Madrigal Choir, under the direction of Lynn Sjolund, will present a concert at 7:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13. The program will be carried by loud speaker throughout the shopping area.

On the following Friday, Dec. 20, the Salvation Army children's choir will present a concert of Christmas songs and the same methods will be used to carry the program to the shopping public.

Each program is scheduled to continue for about one hour.

Change Said Taken From Talent Schools

TALENT—Thieves took a total of \$10 in change from pencil machines at Talent Junior High and Elementary Schools Monday night, according to investigating sheriff's deputies.

The thieves pried open the back door on the junior high and removed a window screen from the elementary school to enter, deputies said.

GOP Holding Off

And so it is with the Republicans just now and with President Johnson. Politics as usual is not for the Republicans during this period of mourning for John F. Kennedy. The citizens would resent it and that is that.

But no such hazard frustrates the political activity of JFK's successor, nor should it. A president who undertook to observe a political truce would be abdicating his responsibilities as chief executive. The presidential job is politics and if there is no politicking the job is not being done.

So it is that President Johnson has been the busiest man in Washington in the past two weeks politicking with labor leaders, Negro spokesmen, congressional leaders and such. Some Republicans are becoming unhappy as Johnson's activity is publicized and their own activity is submerged.

They know better, however, than to break the truce. So they await during the decent interval, honing their weapons while for blood-letting when the second session convenes in January.

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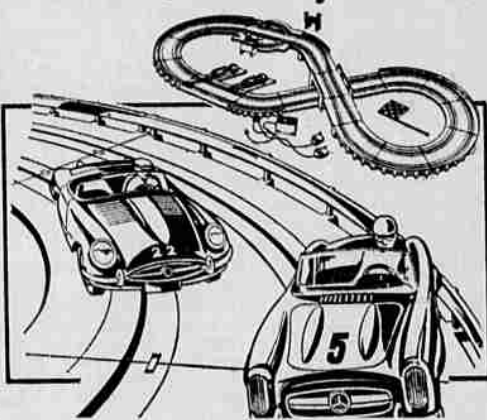
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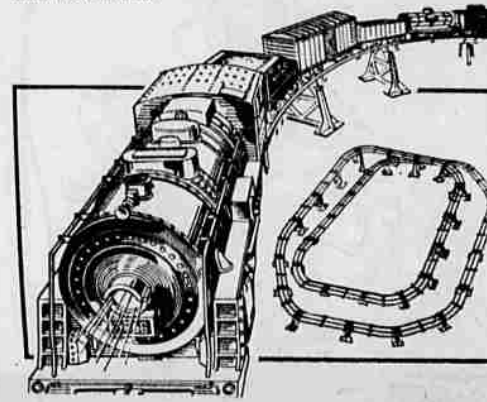


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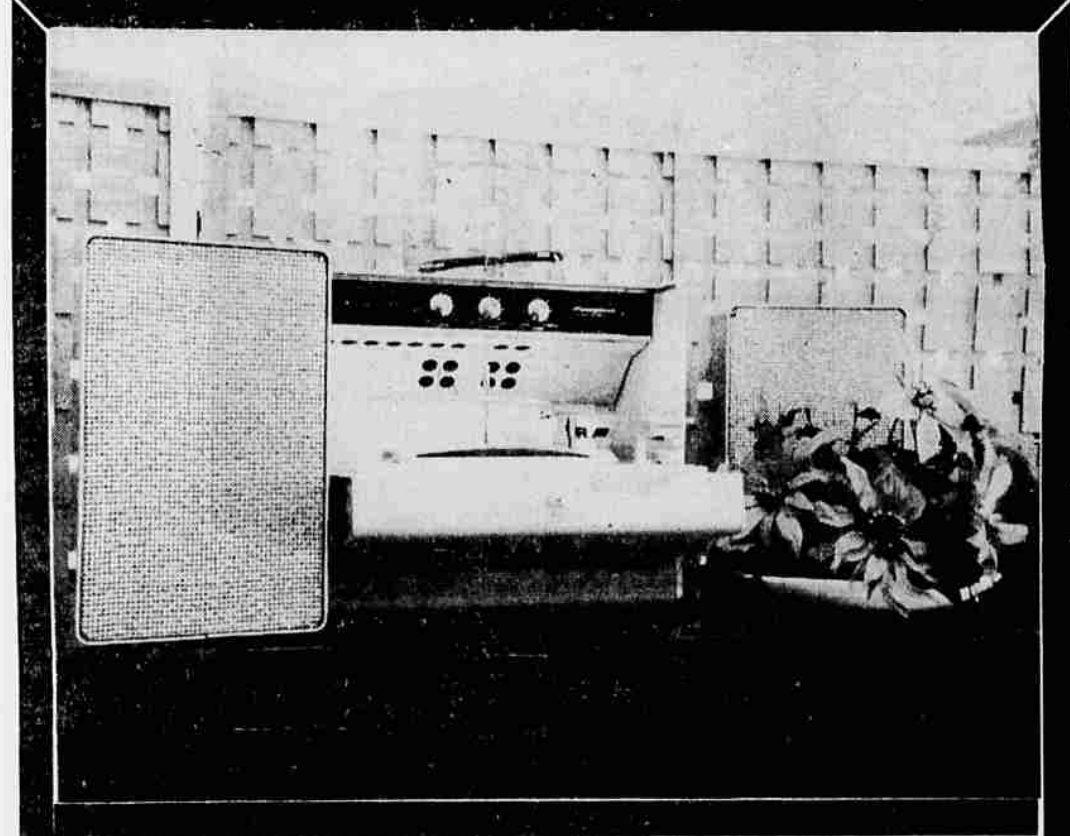
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