

Congresswoman Doesn't Like Water-filled Birds

By PATTI SIMMONS
NEA Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON (NEA) — For want of \$600,000 the turkey thug and butter-leggers may have a field day. And Rep. Leonor Sullivan (D., Mo.) is fighting to see that doesn't happen.

The housewife-congresswoman is sponsoring a bill to plug loopholes in the present Pure Food and Drug Act. But more than that, she's leading the battle to keep the Food and Drug Administration's slice of the federal budget high enough so they can do their job.

The legislator puts it this way. If the Senate fails to put back the \$600,000 which the House recently knocked off FDA's \$5,600,000 budget for the fiscal year 1953, the agency's role in protecting the public will be seriously affected.

In this case, work in sewing filthy food will have to be cut 25 per cent. Work in nabbing economic violators, the crook who dips a hand in the housewife's pocketbook, "will virtually come to a standstill," says George Lar-rick, FDA Deputy Commissioner. It also will be necessary, he adds, to fire 100 technical people, chemists, and bacteriologists, all recruited with great difficulty and put through long and expensive training.

During a tour of FDA's Wash-ington laboratories with Mrs. Sullivan this reporter was able to see

at first hand some of the FDA's work which may be curtailed.

The Chief of the Cereal and Animal Products branch chided us "what a housewife could end up with if she happened to pick the wrong Thanksgiving turkey."

Unethical operators use a hypodermic syringe to inject water into dressed turkeys. The proof, a two quart jar of water taken from a confiscated bird. Just one such haul netted FDA 60,000 pounds of illegal turkey.

Or take the case of the butter-leggers. They took lots of oleo, a little water, a little butter and a washing machine," Mrs. Sullivan explained, "and made butter for sale at butter prices."

Three of four FDA inspectors, trailed suspects for months. A factory inspection proved nothing. Then one inspector discovered the plant measurements were slightly less on the first floor than the second. He sounded the walls and unearthed a small room where oleo wrappers were replaced with butter wrappers.

There's no end to the tricks food swindlers employ to cheat the housewife.

One firm bought about 17 tons of ground paradise seed which was blended with something sold as pepper. Parsnips bought on a wholesale scale were ground up and mixed with a pungent chemical and offered as horseradish.

At the moment, FDA has 208 inspectors to check over 77,000 manufacturing plants and warehouses for such chicanery, the "smallest number of inspectors in years," points out Mrs. Sullivan. "In fact," she adds, "it would take nine years for these men to make one call on each of these plants."

"The relatively few extra dollars Congress will have to appropriate for the addition of a few inspectors," she insists, "will save many thousands for those same taxpayers."

FDA points out that fines from violations help to do this too.

Under the present budget, Lar-rick admits, inspection can only be conducted on a spot check basis "covering approximately one-tenth of one per cent of the interstate traffic in food, drugs and cosmetics."

Truth is that FDA enforcement of the pure food and drug laws has been at a standstill for a number of years," Mrs. Sullivan says, "because the minor increases in its appropriations have been absorbed largely by increased operating costs."

C. W. Crawford, FDA Commissioner, is of the opinion that work on economic cheats alone saves the public more than FDA's total appropriation.

Housewives United, a non-political group with members in every state, has taken up this battle of the budget.

They are not suggesting higher taxes, they declare, they're merely stating "where they want their tax money to go."



THREE KLAMATH FALLS men are attending Reserve Officers Training encampment at McChord Air Force Base, Tacoma, Wash. The three are (l to r) Wayne L. Ballantyne, 121 Nevada; Lowell K. Schuck, 2361 Orchard; and Rex U. Balentine, 1904 Huron.

McCarthy Backs Colleague Hit For Anti-Clergy Story

By G. MILTON KELLY
WASHINGTON (AP) — J. B. Matthews (R-Wis.), has been accused by three Democrats of launching "a shocking and unwarranted attack against the American clergy."

The outcry was stirred by an article Matthews wrote in the July issue of the American Mercury magazine alleging that "the largest single group supporting the Communist apparatus in the United States today is composed of Protestant clergymen."

McCarthy, declaring he has "not the remotest intention of investigating the clergy under any circumstances," quickly rallied to Matthews' defense yesterday.

"This is hardly an attack upon the Protestant clergy," McCarthy said in a prepared statement which noted the article also declared "it hardly needs to be said that the vast majority of American Protestant clergymen are loyal to the free institutions of our country."

Matthews took over Monday a week ago as staff director of the Senate investigations subcommittee which McCarthy heads.

Senators McClellan of Arkansas, Symington of Missouri and Henry Jackson of Washington, its Democrat members, petitioned McCarthy to call a special closed-door meeting "to consider appropriate action." McCarthy said the meeting probably would be held Tuesday.

Sen. Mundt (R-SD), another member, said he had not heard of

the article before, but commented: "It seems to justify the attention of the subcommittee to find out what it's about."

There was no immediate comment from the other Republican members, Senators Potter of Michigan and Dirksen of Illinois.

Matthews has had a long career as a Red-hunter, first as staff director of the House Un American Activities Committee when it was headed by Rep. Dies (D-Tex), and later as a consultant to various government agencies.

Controversy was stirred earlier this year when Chairman Velde (R-III) said the House Un American Activities Committee might search for subversives in the church field, Velde later said he meant only that his committee might investigate individual clergymen.

In his statement McCarthy said of Matthews: "I know that he is a loyal member of the Protestant faith and that he numbers among his best of friends the clergy of all faiths."

Matthews told reporters the article was written before he had any intention of joining the subcommittee staff, and was on the newsstands in New York City by June 15, a week before he started on the job.

He said he would not have written it—or another to be published by the same magazine in its August issue—if he had known he would get the job.

Almost simultaneously, Sen. Hennings (D-Mo) moved to get a wide-scale new Senate study of the "book burning" issue which has stemmed from one of McCarthy's investigations.

Hennings introduced a resolution which would place Congress on record as asking President Eisenhower to order disclosure of all the hotly debated details of the removal of books from U. S. overseas information libraries.

The resolution was steered to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

McCarthy's subcommittee is winding up public hearings on his charges that Communist subversion has hurt the overseas library program.



'MISS UNIVERSE — Shirley Collard, 20, an official welcome to the 70 beauties from all parts of the world who will compete for the title of "Miss Universe of 1954" at Long Beach, Calif., displays the trophies to be awarded the winner, to the girl selected "Miss United States of America," and their runners-up. The pageant will open July 9 and continue for eleven days.

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UMW Pension Taxing Likely

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bureau of Internal Revenue reportedly has ruled that the United Mine Workers must pay taxes on the income from its \$9 million dollar welfare fund and that retired miners must pay taxes on their pensions.

Informed persons said Friday the decision presumably means that 60,000 retired pensioners of John L. Lewis' union will be billed for taxes from the start of their pensions—in some cases back to 1948.

The fund has paid out over 500 million dollars. Individual pensions are \$100 a month. Tax bills would vary according to what other income the pensioners had but individuals could be liable for hundreds, or even thousands, of dollars.

The fund is supported by a 40-cent-a-ton royalty paid by mine operators on coal produced. This has built up the big reserve as well as meeting current pensions and other costs.

Indochinese Get French Promise PARIS (AP) — Premier Joseph Laniel handed notes to the representatives of the three associated states of Indochina Friday, promising them a greater degree of independence within the French Union.

At the same time, the government announced the appointment of a veteran career diplomat, Maurice deJéan, ambassador to Japan, as commissioner-general of Indochina.

The two moves were a reply to growing unrest in the three Indochinese states — Cambodia, Laos, and Viet Nam—which became a part of the French Union in 1949.

The youthful king of Cambodia, Norodom Sihanouk, quit his country in a brief but dramatic self-exile three weeks ago to underline his demands for complete Cambodian independence.

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