

Olin Johnston Claims No Evidence Of Commie Trend

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Olin D. Johnston (D-SC) said today the Eisenhower administration has never offered evidence that it found a single Communist on the government payroll when it came into power.

He made the comment to newsmen as a Senate Civil Service subcommittee he heads went to work on a report of its investigation of the employee security program set up by order of President Eisenhower in May 1953.

Chairman Philip Young of the Civil Service Commission estimated at a subcommittee hearing yesterday that about 41 per cent of the employees listed as fired or removed under the program were hired under the Eisenhower administration, which took over three years ago.

The hearing brought at least a temporary halt to the subcommittee's inquiry, begun last spring. Its authority expires at the end of this month, but Johnston has introduced a resolution to renew it for another year.

Johnston told newsmen he felt the inquiry had been helpful in throwing light on how the security program operates and on how figures are compiled on the number of employees listed as fired as security risks.

Johnston and other Democrats have accused Republicans of making "a political numbers game" out of the figures and of attempting to convey the impression that the Eisenhower administration found a lot of Communists or Communist sympathizers on the federal payroll.

He said the administration has "never shown" that it found a single Communist working for the government. Nor, he said, has it obtained the indictment of any federal employee under a law making it illegal for a Communist to work for the government.

Sen. Carlson of Kansas, the group's lone Republican, said in a separate interview he felt the subcommittee inquiry had done "some good." But he said he agreed with Young that the "basic concept" of the program is sound.

"We've had some problems," Carlson said. "There's no question about it." But he added he saw no necessity for any major overhaul of the program.

As of last June 30, the administration reported that since the start of the program in May 1953, a total of 3,596 employees had been dismissed and 5,681 had resigned before any determination was made of unfavorable information in their files.

Ground Observer Official Discusses Defense Problems

MALIN—Sgt. James B. Shrum, of the Ground Observer Corps, Klamath Falls, was guest speaker at the American Legion Auxiliary's first meeting of the year, January 4. He was introduced by Ann Lahoda, civil defense chairman, and showed a film and spoke on the need of help with the civil defense program in our country today.

He suggested that people in every community wishing to show their patriotism can help by being ground observers and taking home nursing and first aid courses.

Mike Stasny, chairman of the park board, talked to the group about arousing interest in a health center. He stated that it is the belief of many in the community that in order to keep a doctor here it will be necessary to provide more desirable quarters, and urged that a united effort be put forth to get a hospital in Malin.

Committee reports included one on the Christmas party, announcing that the auxiliary had decorated the hall and Christmas tree, decorations to be left at the hall for future use of all who hold their Christmas parties there.

Lorene Bauer, servicemen's chairman, reported on the packing of cookies which were made and mailed to local boys away from home, as well as birthday and holiday greeting cards.

Martha Brothnek reported on the bazaar and dinner and the articles sent to hospital gift shops. Need for new or used children's clothing from infant's size through 18 years for the Roseburg Child Welfare Center was announced by Lois Street, child welfare chairman. These articles may be left at Wilde's store, or call Malin 331 for pickup.

President Hazel Kalina announced that a bed marker had been received from rehabilitation chairman, Vera Petrick, of Klamath Falls. Emma Wilde reported on the sale of deer hides, proceeds to go toward purchase of dishes for the park hall.

Refreshments were served by hostesses Agnes Schreiner, Martha Brothnek and Lorene Bauer.



NEW U.S. MARINE RECRUITS recently enlisted in the Beaver Platoon. The new Marines will remain together as part of this platoon during their recruit training at the San Diego Recruit Depot. This training takes about eight weeks. The recruits, shown with S-Sgt Harold D. Morts, local Marine recruiter, left, are front row left to right, Jerry Carson, and Ed Rolita. Standing, same order, Robert Steritt and John McBride. The Beaver Platoon is made up of men from Oregon.

TAXES ABOLISHED

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Some tax-paying Kentuckians aren't up to snuff on their news, or else they're downright generous. In November, voters abolished all taxes on household goods effective Jan. 1. But yesterday, County Tax Commissioner George Trager said 132 of the first 335 property tax returns received in 1956 listed household goods for taxation. He said the tax will not be assessed.

FIGHTIN' CHANCE

DENVER (AP)—A feller doesn't have a fightin' chance these days. County jail prisoners remain handcuffed when they enter the dentist's chair at Denver General Hospital, Warden Gordon Dolliver ordered yesterday. All because an accused robber, James J. Giron, 31, slugged a guard and tried to escape when officers removed the steel links as Giron was about to enter the chair.

AMBASSADOR LEAVES

NEW DELHI (AP)—U.S. Ambassador John Sherman Cooper left by air Wednesday for Washington and a reported re-examination with State Department officials of U.S. policy toward India. Cooper left amid strong indications America is preparing to meet Russian moves in this area and to counter growing Indian-Soviet ties.

Naming Of New Mental Hospital Stumps Politicos

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.
SALEM (AP)—Dr. P. H. Dammasch, a Portland physician who served six terms in the State House of Representatives, died two weeks ago.

Less than a year earlier he had won his 20-year fight for a mental hospital in the Portland area.

Now, his friends want to name the new hospital after him. And this request has disclosed a comedy of errors in which state officials and legislators got lost in a state of confusion.

What they overlooked is that the 1955 Legislature passed a bill naming it Portland State Hospital. And that seems somewhat odd, since it won't be built in Portland.

The bill, of which Dr. Dammasch was the author, was passed in the confusion of the closing days of the Legislature, when law makers often aren't too clear what they are voting about.

On the last day of the session, the House passed a resolution asking the Board of Control to name the new institution after Dr. Dammasch. Even the House itself had forgotten that the Legislature already had named it.

At its last meeting, the Board of Control indicated it has the power to name the hospital, it too forgetting apparently the Legislature has chosen the name.

I told some legislators, who want the institution named for Dr. Dammasch, that the Legislature voted to call it Portland State Hospital. They were doubtful. But Chapter 651, Oregon Laws of 1955, has it.

The 1957 Legislature, however, can change the name. It wouldn't be too late, because construction probably won't get under way this year.

The new hospital will cost about 15 million dollars. The 1955 Legislature appropriated enough money to get it off to a good start.

The history of the hospital is interesting, as it shows how Dr. Dammasch's one-man campaign was rejected by the Legislature, but upheld by the people.

In the 1951 session, he introduced a bill to build a Portland hospital for aged mental patients, to cost three million dollars.

The Legislature wouldn't pass his bill, but it didn't want to kill it, either. So it added a clause to refer it to the people.

The Legislature believed that the people would kill it, since most money measures are defeated at the polls.

The big surprise came in the 1952 election, when the people voted 480,479 to 153,402 for Dr. Dammasch's hospital.

This gave the 1953 Legislature a mandate to build it.

However, a full-fledged mental hospital, rather than one restricted to aged patients, was considered more desirable. So the Legislature sent the proposal for a mental hospital back to the people.

The people approved the idea in 1954 by a vote of 327,623 to 128,635. So it was up to the 1955 Legislature to find the money.

Early in the 1955 session, Dr. Dammasch introduced a bill to appropriate three million dollars to start the new hospital. The Joint Ways and Means Committee killed the bill, wanting to include it in the regular building program.

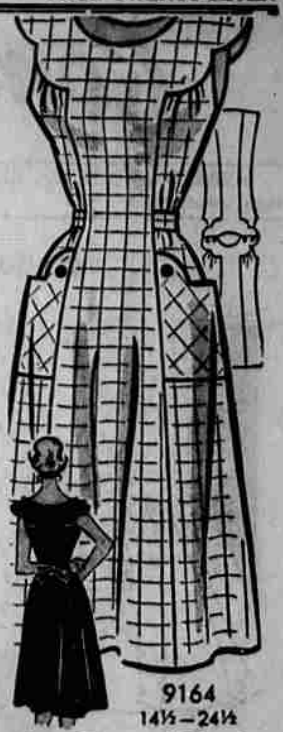
But Dr. Dammasch was white-faced with anger. He thought the committee had killed his hospital.

As it turned out later, he was a happy man, because the Legislature gave him twice what he asked for.

It was too bad he couldn't have lived to see the hospital. But at least he got to see the Legislature provide the money to build it.

ADVANCE PARTY

LONDON (AP)—The British Royal Society announced Wednesday the advance party of its antarctic expedition has landed at a good base on the antarctic continent. The base is on the Weddell Sea coast of Coats Land, almost directly across Antarctica from the American expedition in the McMurdo Sound area.



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