

High-Riding House Demos Seek To Avoid Bill Slash

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democrats, riding high after an initial victory over administration forces, fought today to prevent cuts in their \$2,100,000,000 omnibus bill.

On a key vote Wednesday, the House slapped down President Eisenhower's supporters by killing a proposed \$1,500,000,000 substitute for the housing measure brought to the floor by House Banking Committee Democrats.

The vote was 203-177, with a coalition of Republicans and Southern Democratic conservatives on the losing side.

Some cuts below the amount proposed by the Banking Committee seemed likely before general passage, however.

The new public housing features of the measure were sure to come under especially sharp attack from many Democrats as well as Republicans. The bill would authorize 35,000 public housing units a year for four years. Neither the Eisenhower program nor the defeated substitute proposal provided for such structures.

There were GOP warnings that the Democratic measure faces a certain veto if it is enacted without change.

A secondary battle was being fought over methods of financing housing loans and grants.

The House voted tentatively 149-143 to require congressional review of all housing spending, and to make federal housing officials justify their programs each year before Congress provides the money.

Rep. Albert Thomas (D-Tex.), sponsored the amendment to restrict the long-authorized practice of letting federal agencies go directly to the Treasury for money.

Major features of the Democratic bill, when the House started to work on it, included a three-year, \$1.5-billion program of slum elimination, \$99 million for college housing loans, 100 million for housing for the elderly, 140,000 new units of public housing, and lower down payments on FHA home mortgages.

"DENNIS THE MENACE"



"THAT'S ONE OF MY OLD CRATES. I COULD FLY THAT ONE 'FORE I COULD WALK!"

25-Year Prison Sentence Awaiting Flying Bank Thief

CINCINNATI, Ohio (AP)—A 25-year prison sentence stretches ahead for Frank L. Sprenz, 29-year-old "flying bank robber."

He pleaded guilty Wednesday to \$25,955 robbery of the First National Bank at Hamilton, Ohio, last March 2.

U.S. Dist. Court Judge John H. Druffel imposed the 25-year term. Then, in a surprise move, Sprenz signed waivers to allow transfer here from Vermont, Pennsylvania and Maryland of federal charges of automobile and airplane thefts. He will be arraigned on those charges later.

Then comes a trial in Butler County, Ohio, for bank robbery in the Hamilton holdup. Still later, he'll stand trial in Summit County, Ohio, where he is wanted for armed robbery and jail breaking.

When all of those other charges are disposed of Sprenz will start serving the 25-year term imposed Wednesday. Any sentences given him in the state courts will have to be served after the federal terms are completed.

During the long flight since his escape from the Summit County jail in Akron 13 months ago, Sprenz has hopped from Toronto, through a score of states, and finally into Mexico where he was caught several weeks ago. He is known to have stolen at least three planes during that time.

Sprenz divorced wife, Alberta Mae, 28, has described him as brilliant. Certainly he's been clever. He has posed, at various times, as a college student, professional football player, a garage mechanic. He often used a toupee to hide his receding hairline.

He first ran against the police when he threw rocks at another boy. He was 11 then. Later he was sent to a reformatory, but walked away from the institution's honor camp. He served two Army hitches, but even then, he couldn't stay away from trouble. He stole an automobile to drive to the recruiting station and he was continually in hot water for stealing or being AWOL.

Between 1952 and 1957, Sprenz drifted from one legitimate job to another but then apparently turned to full-time crime.

Carpenters Ask Walk Out

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—Striking carpenters have urged all union workers at the missile test center here to walk out today in a sympathy gesture.

Willard Van Hoose, Carpenters Union negotiator, also said the union rescinded its agreement allowing 1,500 Transport Workers and Teamsters Union workmen to cross picket lines to perform emergency missile work.

These two unions, plus 1,000 building tradesmen, honored the pickets when 115 carpenters struck Friday in a wage dispute with contractors.

The Transport Workers and Teamsters returned Tuesday with the Carpenters' permission to work on missiles already on launching pads.

Spokesmen for both unions indicated they would again honor the picket lines.

Missile launchings have not been affected by the strike. But several million dollars worth of military construction is halted.

Federal mediator John A. Kenney scheduled a meeting with Carpenters negotiators today in another effort to work out an agreement.

The Carpenters, who now average \$2.85 an hour, are asking for a one-year contract with a 33-cent-an-hour wage hike retroactive to April 1, when the old contract expired. The contractors have offered a staggered 35-cent boost over a two-year period, with no retroactive pay.

Ax Victim Said Critical

ASHEVILLE, N.C. (AP)—Rosa Watterson, 20, who was attacked by a hatchet-wielding classmate while asleep in her college dormitory, remained in critical condition today.

Sheriff Laurence E. Brown said her assailant, Patricia Dennis, 22, Lyndhurst, Ohio, is being held on an open charge.

The two are first-year students at Warren Wilson Junior College at nearby Swannanoa. Miss Watterson is from Guilford College, N.C.

Authorities said Miss Dennis told them she was jealous of Miss Watterson because she had taken her friends away.

The sheriff said Miss Dennis went to Miss Watterson's room at 4:40 a.m. Other girls heard screams and rushed to the room. Betty Ferrell, 20, Orgas, W.Va., was cut on the arm while trying to pull the girls apart.

Reds Eyeing Long Meeting

GENEVA (UPI)—The Russians seem to have changed their mind about a short and snappy foreign ministers' conference.

They appeared today to be gearing for a protracted period of difficult negotiations.

Three bits of evidence support this:

—Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev's sudden decision to visit Albania from May 25 to June 6.

—Khrushchev's remark to a group of Americans in Moscow that if the foreign ministers do not succeed at first they should keep trying until they do.

—A report that the Soviet delegation here had extended its contract for communications from Geneva to Moscow from June 8 to July 8.

The motives for the apparent Soviet change of heart have puzzled Westerners. Some were disturbed at the possibility of new surprises from the Russians.

Khrushchev is understood to have been directing Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko almost step by step in the conference so far.

It was considered unlikely he would go to Albania for two weeks, where it will be more difficult to maintain this direct contact, unless he anticipated a period of wait-and-see tactics that would not produce any vital points needing his personal attention.

WHAT HAPPENED?
MATSUYAMA, Japan (UPI)—A speeding truck crashed into a cart, sliced off part of a house, knocked over a fence and two telephone poles and smashed into a store window.

At that point, the driver, Tatsuo Shimizu, 28, woke up.



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King Lets Down Royal Hair; U.S. Charmed By Monarch

By JAMES BACON

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Baudouin, the 25-year-old bachelor King of the Belgians, has let his royal hair down on his current visit to the United States.

Seldom has a visiting monarch so charmed the people he met. Aides said the slender King bent to loosen up a bit in Texas. "I'm sorry I didn't get here when it was still the biggest state," he said. Still, his visit to the movie capital Tuesday started off stiff and formal.

But the royal aloofness cracked by the time he met Frank Sinatra and Gina Lollobrigida.

He and Miss Lollobrigida conversed in French and when a reporter asked him what he thought of the sexy Italian star, he made a noise with his teeth that could only be interpreted as a Belgian refinement of the word "whistle."

At a luncheon, Baudouin's partner was actress Debbie Reynolds, who kept up a running conversation with him. She was later astonished to hear that he sometimes is called Baudouin the Silent by Belgians.

"I never met a more charming man," said Debbie. The King interrupted his split-second schedule to return with Debbie and Glenn Ford to the set where they were working.

A parade of 14 limousines plus a squadron of motorcycle officers preceded the royal limousine. On the trip over, he confided to Miss Reynolds and Ford: "I wish we could take off, just the three of us; we could have a lot of fun."

Later the same night, he attended a party at the home of a Hollywood director, where he danced until 1:40 a.m. with Miss Reynolds, Maria Cooper, daughter of Gary, and Cyd Charisse.

At Disneyland the following day, the King really had a ball. He rode in the engineer's cab of the Santa Fe and Disneyland Railroad that traverses a diorama of the Grand Canyon, and took the helm of the Mississippi River stern-wheeler — and even sounded the steam whistle.

As he left Disneyland, he asked that all of the police and chauffeurs who had escorted him through Southern California be lined up. Then he walked down the line thanking each one with a hearty handshake. He did the same with the press.

"I want to come back again," he said, "and spend more time."

Senate Action On Strauss All Tangled In Politics

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senate action on Lewis L. Strauss' nomination to be secretary of commerce got mixed up in Democratic presidential politics today.

Senate Democratic liberals opposing Strauss' confirmation were reported putting pressure on colleagues who may have 1960 aspirations, in an effort to get them to vote against the Cabinet nominee.

Strauss' opponents reported, meanwhile, that a secret poll they took showed 46 senators in favor of confirmation, 45 against and 7 undecided. A vote is expected next week.

The Democratic liberals think a vote for Strauss could be used effectively against any presidential aspirant who wants their support.

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.), who is eagerly eyeing next year's contest, said he will vote against Strauss.

On the other hand, Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas said he is not going to make up his mind until he reads the testimony given at 16 days of stormy hearings before the Senate Commerce Committee.

Two other potential presidential candidates, like Johnson, said they want to study the record. They are Senators John F. Kennedy (D-Mass) and Stuart Symington (D-Mo).

Republican supporters of Strauss were jolted Wednesday when Sen. William Langer (R-ND) announced he will vote against the nomination.

There were reports that Sen. Margaret Chase Smith (R-Maine) might also go against Strauss. Mrs. Smith said she hasn't made up her mind.

Langer accused Strauss of treating senators with "insulting disrespect" in refusing to answer some questions in a previous investigation of the Dixon-Yates power contract.

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ACTRESS IN LONDON
LONDON (UPI)—Italian-born screen star Pier Angeli arrived by air Wednesday night from Madrid. She was accompanied by her three-year-old son, Perry—object of a custody dispute with her estranged husband, singer Vic Damone.

COULDN'T BE TRUE
GIFU, Japan (UPI)—Police reported today they have solved the puzzle of the election district where every registered voter always votes. Two election officials have been arrested for bringing in substitute voters for sick and absent citizens.

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