

High Court Is Setting For Repartee

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The humor might not have had "em rolling in the aisles, but it was unusual considering the austere surroundings.

The setting was the Supreme Court of the United States. The justice was Justice Charles T. Whittaker.

The moment of levity in the marble-columned, ceilinged court room came when the high bench issued a decision upholding the reversal of a jury's \$25,000 damage award to flagman Carl C. Inman who was hurt at an Akron, Ohio, railroad crossing.

Justice Tom C. Clark, delivering the majority opinion, began talking before Justice Felix Frankfurter had finished commenting on a previous case.

Clark apologized. He explained that he had "jumped the gun" like the drunken driver who ran through a stop light at the Akron intersection and injured Inman who was waving a lantern in each hand.

Whittaker concurred in the opinion favoring the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. He added a "word of mirth" to support the view that there was nothing to indicate the railroad was negligent.

The only sure way for a railroad to protect its flagmen, he said, "would be to provide them with military tanks and make sure they stay in them while within or moving about crossing intersections in the performance of their duties."

Even that might not be foolproof, joked the usually reserved Whittaker, because "something (sic) might shoot him."

Justice William O. Douglas took an icy view of his colleague's "attempt at humor." He said "the rather smart-alecky things which have been said about the case" could not disguise the fact that the flagman could have been put in an inherently unsafe position.

Bearded Duo Trudges On

DULUTH, Minn. (AP)—A pair of Sea Scouts who left Hammond, Ore., April 3 on a trip by canoe and portage trudged into Duluth Monday night, towing their canoe on a trailer by bicycle wheels.

Already the bearded duo, Ted Hotholt, 21, and Alfred Welenofsky, 22, both of Nutley, N.J., had walked about one-third of their grant portage from Portage La Prairie, Man., to New York state.

Initial plans called for a 4,652-mile trip, with all but 300 miles by water. When the two arrived here after 259 days, they had covered 2,815 miles. Only 1,761 miles was by water.

They paddled 140 miles from Stockton, Man., to Portage La Prairie on the Assiniboine River. At Portage La Prairie, the river was frozen. It was not the first river they had found impassable. The Sioux River had been too shallow and the Little Sioux was ice-bound.

Welenofsky said the trip will run about 4,300 miles—about 50 percent by water, depending on ice conditions in New York.

Obscene Books Meeting Asked

PORTLAND (AP)—Mayor Terry Schunk wants Gov. Mark Hatfield to call a statewide meeting to marshal forces against obscene literature.

The mayor Monday said in the wake of a recent Portland meeting on the subject he has received more than 300 letters, many from throughout Oregon.

The biggest part of the job would be up to public opinion, but laws and ordinances should be used when applicable, the mayor said.

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Big Search Party Fans Out In Hunt For Missing Airmen

HOULTON, Maine (UPI)—A 200-man search party lead by woodmen guides fanned out in the snow-covered northern Maine woods today in a hunt for two airmen who bailed out of a B-52 bomber.

The two flyers parachuted from the bomber when it collided with a tanker plane Monday night during a refueling operation.

Even with zero degree weather and a foot of snow on the ground hope was expressed for finding the two flyers alive. They are Capt. William B. Harris, 34, of Middletown, Conn., the co-pilot, and Lt. David B. Morris, 24, of Corvallis, Mich., the navigator.

Both had survival kits and the Air Force said if neither was injured during the parachute landing they could survive for days. Fourteen other airmen, seven in each plane, rode to safe landings after the collision at 15,000 feet. The tanker crew was hospitalized but the Air Force said it was only a "precautionary" measure. Three of the men suffered minor injuries.

The collision occurred shortly after the KC-97 four-engine tanker and the jet bomber began a routine refueling operation. Airman 1-C Earl D. Gooch of Marshall, Tex., said the two planes had been having trouble throughout the rendezvous because the bomber's signal system wasn't working properly.

He said the bomber came too close and "it seemed like he just jumped at us. Boy what a mess."

The refueling boom punched

Coal Industry Hopes Bright

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The coal industry predicted today its outlook for 1960 is "more hopeful than for some years past" because of anticipated greater demand from electric plants and steel mills.

Joseph E. Moody, president of the National Coal Policy Conference, said coal production next year was expected to run 10 percent ahead of 1959.

Moody made the forecast in an article in the United Mine Workers Journal. The coal policy conference is made up of representatives of the coal companies, the union, customers, suppliers and transporters.

The electric industry, Moody said, is confident that there will be a "marked increase" in the use of electricity in 1960. He said this would aid the coal industry because "this is coal's fastest growing market."

The steel industry, too, cannot help but contribute substantially to a coal resurgence," he wrote. He said the steel makers' effort to make up for production lost during the 116-day strike and to out-strip foreign producers would boom production.

As for exports, Moody said that shipments overseas in 1960 would just about match the 30 million tons shipped this year if European stockpiles and foreign tariff policies remained the same.

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'Can't Help News Strike,' Hatfield Tells Mediator

SALEM (AP)—Gov. Mark Hatfield said Monday he can't think of any way in which he might help settle the Portland newspaper strike.

He made his statement after a two-hour conference with Elmer Williams, federal mediator in the strike.

"I have been thinking of all possible alternatives," Hatfield said, "but I can't think of any that would work."

He said it wouldn't do any good if he appointed a fact-finding commission because The Oregonian and The Oregon Journal publishers have said they do not want any such commission.

Asked if a fact-finding commission might be able to give the public the facts of the strike, Hatfield said he doubted it. He pointed out that such an agency would have difficulty getting at the truth because it would not have the power to subpoena records and witnesses.

The governor then was asked if the Legislative Interim Committee on Labor-Management Relations could investigate the strike, since it would have subpoena powers.

Hatfield replied he is doubtful whether that committee has the power to investigate a specific labor dispute and that, if it did, a court challenge probably would result.

Stereotypers at the two newspapers walked out Nov. 10 and the dispute has idled some 900, largely members of other unions who observed picket lines.

At issue is the number of men that would be required to man a new casting machine The Oregonian says it plans to buy, whether the foreman should be in the union, and the method of getting substitutes for stereotypers who lay off work.

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Mark Favors Federal Firm For Use Of Water Sources

SALEM (AP)—Gov. Mark Hatfield said Monday he favors a federal corporation for multiple use of water sources in the Columbia Basin, but only if there are safeguards to prevent loss of local control.

Under his plan, this federal corporation would be appointed by the President.

"I don't fear loss of local control," he added, "if the legislation is written to guarantee such control."

"It isn't possible for each state to develop the Columbia Basin independently."

The proposed federal corporation would handle power, fish, navigation, irrigation, pollution and recreation aspects.

He said he doubts whether the states could ever do it by a compact among them, pointing out that the Northwest states have worked fruitlessly for several years without coming to agreement on a compact.

He said he intends to run for delegate to the Republican National Convention, which opens in Chicago July 25.

But he added that he will remain neutral in the contest for president between Vice President Nixon and New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, at least until the Oregon primary next May. Then he'll support the winner of that primary.

Gov. Hatfield said that Freeman Holmer, state finance director, and Loren Hicks, the governor's legal adviser, are supervising development of a plan to reorganize the state government.

Hatfield said this plan will be submitted to the next Legislature.

He said each state department has been advised that Hatfield wants to create a cabinet type of state government, and that these

Girl Arrested As Robber

CORVALLIS (AP)—Police here reported Monday they nabbed a pretty 14-year-old girl after she robbed a service station operator. She held at the point of a butcher knife.

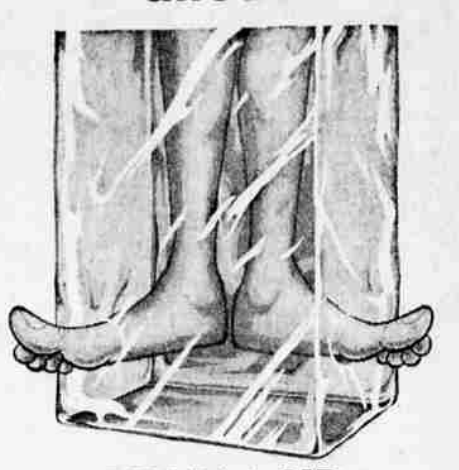
The service station operator, Harold Denning, 29, said the girl came in to warm herself at the stove and moments later pulled out the knife with the seven-inch blade.

Police said the blonde girl was spotted downtown wearing a brown leather jacket with fringes. The lass, who was running away, had spent all but \$11 for clothes, candy and a bus ticket to Portland, officers said.

months in office, but that he has been able to accept only a few of the invitations.

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