

Herald and News

Editorial Page

FBI, Crime And The Courts

We have grown so accustomed to annual increases in crime rates that it comes as a mild surprise to learn from the FBI that in 1962 murders showed a 2 per cent decline in number from the previous year.

There seems to be no profound explanation, other than the fact that police work in this field is extraordinarily good.

The FBI, in its annual report, says that over the nation the police cleared up 93 per cent of willful killings in 1962. These include both murder and so-called non-negligent manslaughter.

Unhappily, that does not indicate a 93 per cent rate of conviction. Of those cases disposed of by the courts last year, about half resulted in dismissal, acquittal or reduction of the charge.

Often it is complained that the courts themselves, through the action of either judges or jury, are guilty of incredible softness toward the perpetrators of crime — serious and minor.

The FBI makes no such complaint, whatever it may feel on this score. As a matter of fact, intelligent studies of court performance are sadly lacking. Judge and jury act from a wide variety of motives, only one of which may be an inclination to "take it easy" on the defendant.

The FBI does note that other factors, too, help explain why a big disparity may exist between the number of arrests and the number of convictions.

Sometimes the police discover they were wrong, and there is no formal charge. When young persons are involved, special local or state laws may dictate leniency. Sometimes, despite police "clearance" of a case, the evidence proves insufficient for an indictment. And, though this could hardly apply in a murder case, the victim of a crime often refuses to co-operate in prosecution of the alleged offender.

So it is not a simple matter of the police doing a great job in some fields and the courts not doing so.

Nevertheless, it is most interesting to note that only half of the "willful killing" cases which reach the courts result in conviction on the original charges of murder or non-negligent manslaughter.

The FBI points out that not only in the matter of killing but in other crimes against the person as rape and aggravated assault, dismissal, acquittal or charge reduction is more common than for crimes against property.

This seems to indicate a considerable reluctance on the part of the courts to act harshly or too swiftly in areas where the penalties may be severe—even unto capital punishment.

A tendency exists in some quarters to depict the courts as agencies of brutal retribution—eager to speed defendants toward death or a life term. The figures do not support them. Obviously much murder and mayhem is never penalized at all.

They Never Sleep

(Houston Press)

The "Fair Traders" in Congress haven't given up and a hearing on their current bill to fix prices was held at the end of May.

This year the legislation is called a "Quality Stabilization Bill," for reasons which aren't exactly obvious. But under whatever name, this is a scheme to avoid competition in the retail business, especially drugs, and to soak the consumer a few extra billions.

Price-fixing in any form is obnoxious to the American free enterprise system, particularly so when it is designed to push prices only one direction—up.

That has been the definite effect whenever these "Fair Traders" have succeeded in getting states to legalize their plan.

Their apparent hope in Congress is to keep at it until attention is distracted by weightier affairs, then get their bill passed by default. Any Congressman concerned with the household budgets of his constituents is bound to be against it.

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WASHINGTON NOTEBOOK . . .



Fat Jaws A Problem

By WASHINGTON STAFF
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA)—In the Kennedy family, there is a standing joke that their double Irish heritage (Kennedy - Fitzgerald) makes the menfolk a little fat.

Not long ago, as a case in point, he sent an inscribed photograph to his brother, Sen. Edward M. (Ted) Kennedy. It is a picture of the two of them on the platform at a Boston College ceremony.

The view of Teddy shows a sharp, distinct bulge on the right side of his jaw. The President's scrawled inscription, with a line drawn to the bulge:

"Honey Fitz" grandson stores notes for the winter."

When Tanganyika's 40-year-old President Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere was introduced to the National Press Club in Washington, the story was told of his resigning a job as a teacher in a Catholic school only eight years ago. He then walked 25 miles to his home to begin a new career in politics.

"But that's nothing," observed Press Club President Bryson Rash. "We have young men in this country who walk 30 miles just to stay in politics."

Rash also related that Nyerere's first political motto was "Freedom." He changed this later to "Freedom and Work." He elaborated this with the slogan: "Treat a guest as a guest for two days—then give him a hoe."

A popular line since Defense Secretary Bob McNamara came to the Pentagon is, "A good executive is a person who goes around with a worried look on his assistant's face."

The reasons behind Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman's Russian trip are somewhat of a mystery to Rep. Bob Dole, R-Kan.

Noting that Moscow was Freeman's first stop, Dole points out that if Freeman had a yen to visit Moscow, he could have traveled to Moscow, Kan., with less difficulty.

"Many wheat farmers in that area have questions which must be answered immediately," he continued, "if he prefers another

state, he can find a Moscow in Idaho (potatoes), Arkansas (rice), Iowa (corn), Michigan (dairy farms) or Texas (cotton)—not to mention the Moscovs in Vermont, Tennessee, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maine."

Sen. Karl Mundt, R-S.D., tells one on roving Ambassador Averell Harriman, chief of the U.S. delegation to the test ban talks in Moscow.

"At least we're represented by an optimist," Mundt points out. "A roving ambassador hardly stops any place long enough to learn how bad things really are!"

New security restrictions at the Executive Office Building sometimes are exasperating even to top government officials. Visitors must be cleared by whomever they are seeing.

Glenn Seaborg, Atomic Energy Commission chairman, late for an appointment recently, was vexed to learn that somebody had forgotten to notify the guards he was due.

Seaborg produced reams of identification to no avail. After

several lengthy phone conversations by a guard, the commissioner was given a curt, "You're O.K., Seaborg. You can go on up."

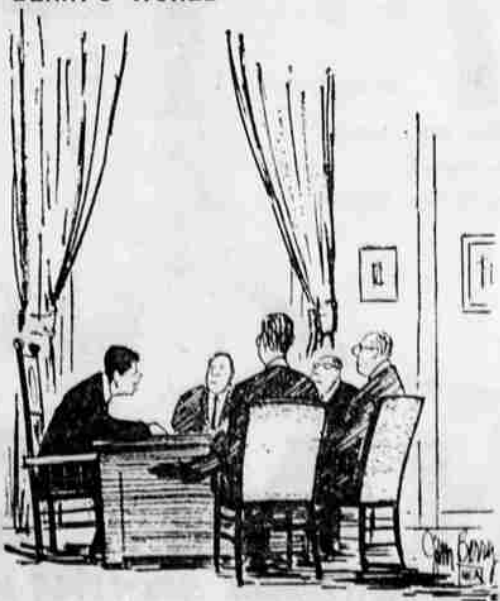
A reporter asked the guard if he hadn't recognized the AEC chairman. The guard shook his head, adding in a tired voice, "Buddy, they all look the same when they come through that door."

Peace Corps Director Sargent Shriver Jr. doesn't operate by the usual bureaucratic standards Congress has come to expect. At the end of the fiscal year, Shriver turned back to the Treasury \$3.4 million he hadn't spent because he's behind on his training program, instead of hurrying up to spend the money before the appropriation expired.

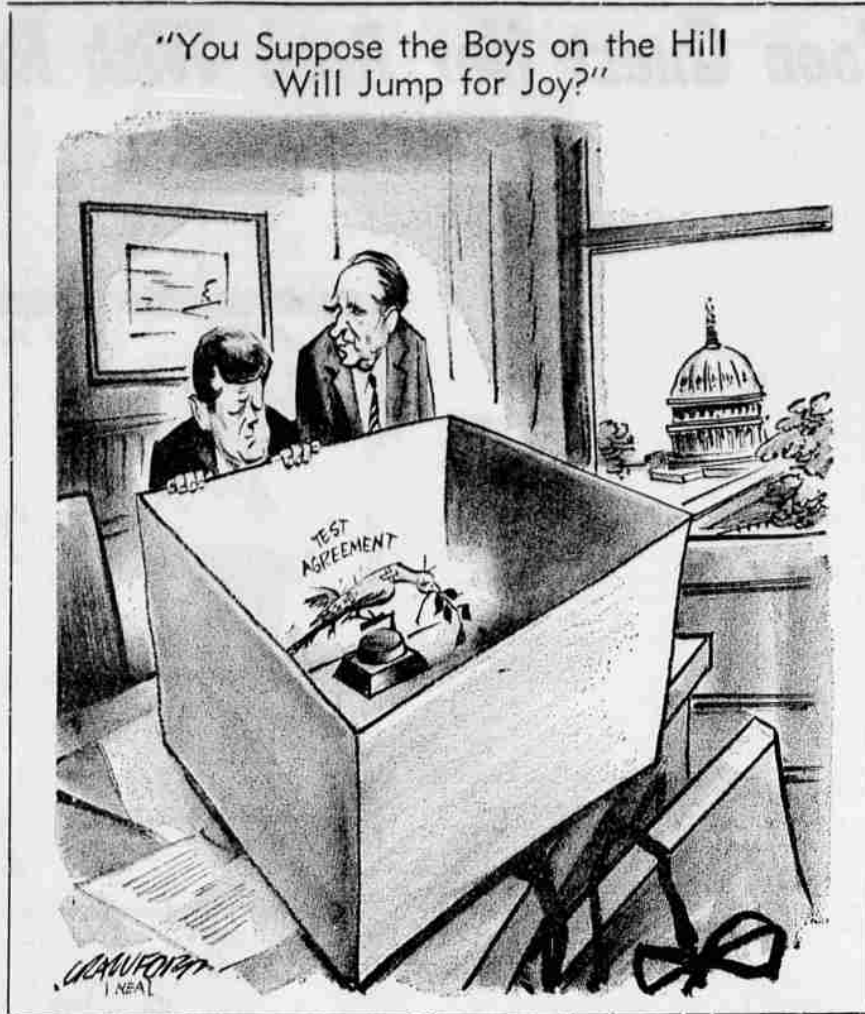
The \$100 million Shriver is asking for the current year is, he insists, rock bottom. Congressmen say to him in effect, "Come on now, Sarge, you know you put some padding in there so we could make a cut."

He shakes his head and insists \$100 million is his actual need.

BERRY'S WORLD



"... Now I would like to propose a special sub-sub-committee to make a study of the findings of the special sub-sub committee."



IN WASHINGTON . . .

JFK Believes 'All Fine'

By RALPH de TOLEDANO

The President, if you are ready to accept the word of his official spokesman, is in "high spirits." He believes that everything is going fine. Much of this happy feeling derives from his belief that Comrade Khrushchev is feeding out of his hand. Others with the same belief have usually ended up minus an arm.

On Capitol Hill, however, the gloom is so thick it can be cut with a knife. Democratic leaders in House and Senate say frankly that the present Congress may go down as the most do-nothing in history. In the past, "do-nothing" was a comparative term. But this year, at least in the House, it is almost literally true. In close to seven months, not a single "must" item in the President's program has managed to get itself enacted—and the honorable legislators, looking back at some 300 wasted hours on the floor of both chambers, wonder where the time went.

The leadership is also in a tremendous tizzy over what will happen when the civil rights bills, the tax reform measures, and other controversial matters hit the Congressional fan. In the past, there could always be a speed-up as the heat and humidity of Washington made a visit to the constituencies seem like a heavenly escape. But "If summer's here, can adjournment be far behind?" no longer applies.

Sen. Joe Clark (D-Pa.) has been haranguing the Senate on its inability to pass anything more than 14 of the 102 measures sent up to the Hill by the White House. Only two of those 14—ratification of a coffee agreement and a feed grains bill—went beyond the routine. The log-jam is so bad that many federal agencies have not had their appropriations approved and so are living in effect on borrowed time and money.

Some Democrats hope that the President can pass off the blame for this notorious inactivity on the Republicans, and that Mr. Kennedy's two-to-one preponderance

in Congress can be obscured by a steady stream of attacks on GOP "obstructionism." But this tactic has begun to wear thin. It is clear to those who bother to read a newspaper that the Republicans in Congress couldn't pass a resolution in favor of motherhood without the sanction of the Democratic leadership. The GOP vote counts only when a substantial number of Democrats oppose a piece of legislation.

The Republicans are hardly to blame—and it would be rank ingratitude for the President to be laboring the GOP's Senate leadership. In fact, Senate Republican Whip Thomas Kuchel of California is considered a kind of crypto-Democrat by many of his colleagues. On the theoretical and practical levels he differs from his opposition in almost nothing. The Minority Leader, Sen. Everett McKinley Dirksen, makes anti-administration noises from time to time, but the most charitable thing to be said about him is that he is ineffective.

Why, then, the utter torpor in Congress? Senator Clark, who has most of the endearing qualities of a Harold Ickes, blames "antiquated" Congressional procedures. This is nonsense, for Congress can move rapidly and

decisively when it wishes. The answer lies in the kind of leadership the Congress is getting from the White House.

Relations between any President and the Congress are always a touchy matter. The New Frontier has aggravated this in two ways:

(1) It has pressed much too hard for legislation that had no chance of success. This has created antagonisms that carry over to proposals which could have been pushed through.

(2) The President has relied far too much on Attorney General Kennedy to "win over" recalcitrant legislators. Young Bob Kennedy is hardly a popularity contest winner in the Administration. On the Hill, this is worse because there are many who remember him when he was counsel to the McClellan Labor Reactions Committee. At the time, one important Senator said to me, "The only time Bobby talks to me is when he shouts orders. But Jack protects him." These personal considerations would not matter very much if the Congress felt any enthusiasm for the President's program. Being reluctant to start with doesn't help when the blameworthy and the arm-twisting begin.

Rayburn Death Proved Bad Blow To Kennedy

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press International

It is President Kennedy's bad luck that Sam Rayburn died and that it was deemed necessary to put Lyndon B. Johnson on the 1960 Democratic presidential ticket to hold the Deep South.

"Mr. Sam" and Johnson were congressional leaders who knew how to lead. That cannot be said of the leadership of the 88th Congress. The Democratic Party enjoys majorities in the House and Senate. Democrats chair the committees, occupy the seats of power. The President in the White House is a Democrat.

With all of that going for the New Frontier, the Kennedy administration is unable to move its legislative program. The U.S. Congress does not function much beyond the routine of convene-recess-convene-recess again, more a vegetable than a living organism of government.

Leadership Complicated
The President has complicated more than simplified the leadership problems of his legislative agents. For example: There are at this moment before Congress three major Kennedy proposals, each with an A-1 priority. They are: tax reduction and reform, civil rights and railroad strike legislation.

This is the seventh month of the 88th Congress. All but two of the routine appropriation bills await action. Fewer than half a dozen major bills of any kind have been enacted in this first seven months. The President recently reported himself content that he had got the country to moving again. If so, it is time he turned his attention to the Democratic 88th Congress.

No economy nor system of government nor political administration can long endure an absolute stagnation of public business. If

Republicans would knock off fighting among themselves long enough to consider the stagnation now prevailing, they might discover the delights of lining up together to fight the Democrats.

Republicans should be the last to forget that a lost and hopeless cause produced a political miracle in 1948 when Harry S. Truman directed his presidential campaign exclusively against the Republican 80th Congress. HST called the 80th the worst. On its record so far, HST might want to revise his estimate in favor of the 88th Congress.

Session Draws On
This session probably will continue through Thanksgiving to Christmas. President Kennedy made an effective 1960 campaign complaint that President Eisenhower had failed to provide the nation with leadership. That invites attention now to the situation in Congress where the Democratic leadership does not lead and the Democratic majorities reject the leadership of President Kennedy.

This situation, of course, will change considerably in the final weeks of this session. Then there will be a hurricane of legislative activity. Congress will be on a day-and-evening scheduled to enact vital legislation. This will be accomplished by short cuts, half-baked debate and consideration. Emerging is likely to be a great deal of ill-considered legislation.

That is the environment, for example, in which the Senate probably will be compelled to consider the test ban treaty. The session-end legislative traffic jam will not permit time for intelligent consideration of a test ban treaty although the fate of the human race may be written between the lines of that document. Too bad Lyndon and Mr. Sam can't take over again.



EDSON IN WASHINGTON . . .

Automation Blamed As Rail Culprit

By PETER EDSON
Washington Correspondent
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

WASHINGTON (NEA)—For the long haul, the most important part of President Kennedy's special message to Congress on the railroad crisis may be his proposal for handling all technological unemployment.

This would make "automation" the key word in the rail dispute. It would replace "featherbedding" and "compulsory arbitration" as the catch phrases naming the issue up to now.

The President's proposal to turn the case over to the Interstate Commerce Commission may or may not be accepted by Congress.

If Congress does pass the proposed joint resolution before July 29, and if the ICC can then impose temporary work rules, the trains will be kept running for at least two years.

The hope is that in this period the railroad employers and their on-train employees will settle their differences by collective bargaining. But they already have bargained unsuccessfully on the work rules issue for four years.

Since the dispute is bound to get worse instead of better, there is little reason to believe it will be solved permanently by temporary measures.

If it is not solved, then the whole rigamarole will have to be gone through again under Railway Labor Act and National Mediation Board proceedings.

So, for the long-range solution, the President proposes tackling all the complicated problems of automation—the displacement of workers by labor-saving technological advances.

He falls back on the old standby of gimmick of bureaucracy. He will appoint a committee to study the problem. This one will be called the Presidential Commission on Automation.

Its job will be to identify and describe the major types of worker displacement likely to occur in the next 10 years. It will recommend just what private business and organized labor should be responsible for in solving the problems caused by automation. It will recommend what state and local governments should be responsible for.

And then finally—you guessed it—it will recommend specific administrative steps which the federal government should take to

meet its responsibilities "to share the costs and alleviate the losses of automation job-displacement." All this is to be done "in such a way as to assure both the continued advance of our technology and the continued well-being of our people."

The Presidential Commission on Automation will have until the end of 1964 to study and report. The effect is to sweep the whole problem under the table till after election.

Nobody knows yet who will be on the commission or what it will find to report, but the indicated course is to set up another federal government welfare program.

Surplus people—those displaced by automation—would be handled something like surplus crops. They would be kept at government expense until they can be reprocessed or retrained so somebody can find some use for them.

The extent to which the government would bear the costs of technological displacement for both management and labor is spelled out in an earlier paragraph of the President's message. There are no dollar figures mentioned, but the total would be millions.

"The nation as a whole, which shares in the benefits, also would bear part of the burden imposed by advancing railroad technology," says the President.

To the extent that retraining benefits are now available to railway workers under the Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962, the carriers would be relieved of this obligation, the message points out.

Under the proposal submitted by the carriers to their on-train employees, the employers themselves offer to give displaced workers substantial dismissal pay, preferential rehiring rights, or liberal allowances to retrain for new skills.

But now the government seems to be preparing to relieve railway management of these costs, while promoting more automation.

"The unfairness of placing the entire burden of readjustment costs upon either the carriers or the workers is an additional reason why legislation is particularly appropriate in this case," says the President.

This legislation has not yet been drafted to apply to the railroads, but look out for it when it comes.

WASHINGTON REPORT . . .



Popularity Rating Looms For Kennedy

By FULTON LEWIS JR.

President Kennedy, admittedly fearful that his popularity has badly slipped in recent months, will get his first real clue within 48 hours.

Voters in Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District will go pollward Tuesday to elect a successor to the late Francis Walter, the revered Democrat who won 16 straight terms in the House.

Despite the fact that Walter won re-election easily last fall, Republicans feel they have an excellent chance of victory. The 15th is a "swing" district. While Walter picked up 57 per cent of the vote last November, Republican Bill Scanton carried the district in his successful race for the governorship. Also carrying the 15th was Democrat Joe Clark, who won re-election to the Senate.

The GOP candidate is Bob Bartlett who was nominated in a district and civic leader making his first run for public office. A good-looking graduate of West Point, Bartlett was nominated in a district-wide convention attended by Republican workers from each of the district's four counties.

Local Democrats had little to say about the man who now bears their standard. He is State Sen. Fred Rooney, handpicked by Philadelphia boss Bill Green for the race. Rooney's nomination was approved as routine business by members of the Democratic State Committee, meeting behind closed doors in Harrisburg, 90 miles from the district.

Boss Green, a Congressman himself, is apparently trying to regain the vote he lost in Pennsylvania's Democratic delegation when the legislature reapportioned one of his Congressmen out of a job.

Democrat Rooney has pledged himself to support of the Administration program. He repeatedly boasts that President Kennedy has endorsed his candidacy.

Republican Bartlett has made foreign policy a major issue. He has ripped the Administration for what he calls its do-nothing policy in Cuba, Laos, and South Vietnam. Deploping the disintegration of NATO, Bartlett says, "Nations

will follow us and people will respect us only when we begin to act like a leader."

Rooney's lieutenants, who include 30 high-priced union "strategists" brought in from outside the district, have attempted to smear Bartlett, a moderate conservative, as a "right-wing extremist." As proof, they point to an article favorable to the GOP candidate carried in Human Events, the leading anti-Communist Washington weekly.

Exclaimed one Rooney backer over Radio Station WAEB in Allentown: "Human Events is described by every political columnist and analyst in the country as being to the right of the John Birch Society."

The statement is absurd. And nobody would have known that better than "Fad" Walter, who himself wrote for Human Events.

A long-time subscriber, this is what Congressman Walter said about the publication that Rooney's men now claim is to the "right of the John Birch Society": "I look forward each week to Human Events' timely and incisive presentation of the news. In my capacity as chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, I particularly appreciate its courageous opposition to the threat presented by the Communists and their allies."

Rooney's aides have charged that Human Events is bankrolled by oil millionaire H. L. Hunt, whom they call a "notorious radical rightist."

Hunt has contributed no funds to Human Events, save \$9 a year for his subscription. Other subscribers include Sens. Hubert Humphrey, Mike Mansfield and Claire Engle, all key Administration supporters.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q—Which of our states are known as commonwealths?
A—Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Virginia. Puerto Rico was made a free commonwealth associated with the United States in 1952.