

Editorial Page

Don't Economize At Home

An announcement by Secretary of Defense McNamara recently which calls for the closure of some 33 domestic and overseas military establishments almost set off an explosion in Congress. Senators and Representatives from the 14 states which will be affected, raised a storm of protest.

And yet many of these same lawmakers have constantly cried for a reduction in government spending.

President Johnson is being blamed for the cutback. But the late President Kennedy had proposed to McNamara that he provide defense at the lowest possible cost.

Republicans, in particular, have been critical of our continuous spending and mounting debt. Conservative Democrats have been of the same opinion. But when actual steps are taken to save—in the case of the military cutbacks it will amount to some \$442 million annually—a hue and cry immediately goes up from the representa-

tives of states or areas where these economies are to be affected. First to howl after McNamara's announcement was Sen. Kenneth B. Keating, R-N.Y. New York is one of the heaviest losers according to McNamara's schedule. In fact he was quoted as saying, "It is incredible that anyone could analyze this as an economy move."

We feel you can call a rose by any other name but if the trusted Secretary of Defense says he can provide adequate protection of our nation for some \$442 million less annually than is the case today, then this is tightening up the fiscal belt.

The curtailments in government spending almost everyone wants to make are those which affect other areas and other people. In Oregon we don't get very excited about closing military bases in Texas. This is true in reverse. But when they start cutting back at home we scream bloody murder.

But we're surprised Republican Sen. Keating made such a howl!

Airlines Strike

It's a good thing the President did something about preventing a strike which would have put six major U.S. airlines out of commission right at the peak of the Christmas holidays.

This would have been catastrophic to hundreds of thousands of persons who have waited all year long to make a trip home—or elsewhere—for Christmas. A disappointment of this character would have been bad enough for normal travel-minded citizens of the U.S.A. But think of the hundreds and hundreds of servicemen who have been stationed beyond the limits of the U.S. They would have been shut out entirely. It's tough enough as it is, G.I.'s lucky enough to get a leave during the holidays or any other time of the year, are permitted to travel on a commercial airline at a half-fare rate. But

they get no priority. So during Christmas time especially the lowly-paid draftee who has a chance to come home has to have everything working for him. Because being bumped is S.O.P. An airline strike would certainly foul up the detail.

The scrap, incidentally, is between machinists and these lines: Braniff, Continental, Eastern Northwest, Trans World and National. When the aforementioned companies are not flying, a great segment of the nation is left at the airport.

Thank goodness the President's recent action will postpone for at least 60 days the threatened walk-out and will give the board a time cushion during which it can further study the hassle over pay raises and rule changes. We hope it will be resolved by Easter.



WILLIAM S. WHITE ...

GOP Regulars Snub Lodge

By WILLIAM S. WHITE
WASHINGTON—The extraordinarily eager interest shown by Henry Cabot Lodge in former President Eisenhower's reported suggestion that he seek nomination is troubling two very different groups for very different reasons.

People in the Administration, though far from afraid of Mr. Lodge as a potential rival to President Johnson in next year's campaign, do not hide their concern at the Ambassador's open and wholly unexpected injection of himself into partisan politics in an arena of hot war with Communist invaders.

Mr. Lodge accepted President Kennedy's appointment as Ambassador to South Viet Nam for the precise purpose, on his side and on Mr. Kennedy's side, of keeping domestic politics strictly out of a war effort in which 18,000 American troops are involved alongside the anti-Communist Vietnamese.

The regular Republicans, for their part, are putting out for Mr. Lodge a mat upon which the word "Unwelcome" is, in spirit, written large. The Ambassador, who lost his Senate seat from Massachusetts to John F. Kennedy and went on to represent President Eisenhower at the United Nations, has been in the black books of loyalist organization Republicans since 1949. He led an unsuccessful effort to oust the late Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio, "Mr. Republican," as principal GOP spokesman in the Senate.

Then he burned the last bridge with the orthodox Republicans by taking the lead in accusing Taft men of attempting to "steal" the 1952 Republican Presidential nomination from General Eisenhower.

While nothing is impossible in politics—and certainly not in the present state of affairs within the GOP—serious talk of Mr. Lodge's nomination is seen among the Republican regulars as akin to moon-madness. And it is far from relished by the backers of Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York, Sen. Barry Goldwater of Arizona, Gov. William Scranton of Pennsylvania and Gov. George Romney of Michigan.

Thus, many Republican professionals are wistfully awaiting some signal that General

Eisenhower has not selected Lodge as his personal choice, but is—so they hope and believe—only trying to broaden the field of GOP possibilities, as he has before.

What Ambassador Lodge is doing is not at all bothering the purely political headquarters of the Johnson Administration. That headquarters is in the hat of the President himself, who intends for Cabinet associates just to get on with their jobs and leave the politicking to him—an intention that suits both sides.

Lodge's ready "availability," however, is causing great concern to those in the Administration who must implement the President's foreign and military policy—the State and Defense departments. These departments, under both President Kennedy and President Johnson, have been deliberately kept out of politics, under a career Secretary of State, Dean Rusk, and a Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara, who in private life was a big business Republican. Within them there is no fear that the diplomatic and milita-

ry situation in South Viet Nam, already a bit chancy in the aftermath of the revolt which destroyed the regime of President Ngo Dinh Diem, might become dangerously bedeviled by domestic American politics.

There can be no doubt that if the present problem were only a political one—would Lodge be an especially dangerous opponent for President Johnson next year?—no one in the White House would be running scared. The answer from there—sound or not, as it might be—without question would be: "No, not very dangerous."

Indeed, a widespread view, quite outside the precincts of the White House and not confined to Democratic politicians, is that Mr. Lodge's somewhat remote form of campaigning in 1960, as the Vice Presidential nominee, was not of the greatest help to the top of the ticket, Richard Nixon. There is also the fact—to which anti-Lodge Republicans are already beginning to point—that Lodge is a two-time loser, first in the Senate race of 1952 and again in 1960 on the Nixon slate.



STRICTLY PERSONAL.

By SYDNEY J. HARRIS

One of the men most often named as a great prophet of the twentieth century was H. G. Wells. In his numerous books around the turn of the century, he quite accurately predicted many of the latest developments in science and technology.

Yet it is interesting that even so imaginative and speculative a thinker as Wells who so clearly saw the shapes of things to come in many areas, had his own gigantic blind spots. In his book, "Anticipations," written in 1901 and giving predictions of things to happen before the year 2000, Wells wrote: "I have said nothing in this chapter, devoted to locomotion, of the coming invention of flying. . . I do not think it at all probable that aeronautics will ever come into play as a serious modification of transport and communication. . ."

And, a little further along in the same chapter, he wrote: "I must confess that my imagination . . . refuses to see any sort of submarine doing anything but suffocate its crew and founder at sea."

This, mind you, was not some rigid traditionalist, but the most daring extrapolator of his times, much of whose brilliant "science-fiction" turned into fact before his own death.

If so prescient a man as Wells himself could not anticipate (in a book called "Anticipations") the tremendous impact of the airplane or the devastating power of the submarine, how can we ordinary mortals have any conception of what the next decade may bring us?

And, since his time, the rate of acceleration has increased a hundredfold; not only is there more change today, but the rate

of change has been speeded up to a dizzying degree. It is startling to realize the fact that 90 per cent of all scientists who ever existed are alive today.

What is frightening about a future war, and what makes it so unfeasible from every point of view except the suicidal, is that governments have become the sorcerer's apprentices. Science is the sorcerer, which more or less knows what it is doing and can control its experiments; but governments use science for their own purposes, and are not wise or disciplined enough to be able to control all the possible results.

Washington Window . . .

Politics Truce Self Imposed

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press International

A decent interval will have passed by the time Congress reconvenes in January and Republicans will be able to resume speaking frankly their opposition to the Kennedy-Johnson program.

The Republicans are handicapped just now by a whimsical fraud variously known as a political truce or a political moratorium. This is a period of grace and seemingly conduct most often in effect after some tragedy of national proportions such as the assassination of a president. In the shocked aftermath of such an event, the loyal opposition usually hastens to announce that for the time being it will forego petty politics and nasty cracks about the late leader. If the opposition is caught with a big political clambake scheduled, it is traditional to postpone or to cancel it—as the Republicans cancelled a midwestern meeting at which was to be launched the campaign to retire the Kennedy's (all three of them) from public life.

An Absolute Phony
Such are the outward manifestations of a political truce in the train of national tragedy. It is of no consequence that such a political truce is an absolute phony. The facts, of course, are that the loyal opposition calls the truce against itself. This is done, not so much in respect to the late leader as in the certainty that outrageously noisy political activity at a time of national grief would offend a great many citizens and, thereby, cost the political activists a lot of votes next time around. You might say that there is a generous helping of self service in any political truce called against itself by the loyal opposition.

But this does not prevent the loyal opposition from becoming restive as the truce is prolonged and the party in power happily ignores it. Not only does the party in power ignore the truce, but it does so in confidence that no citizens will be offended nor votes lost in the process. This enrages the loyal opposition which can only put or mutter to itself that the time of the loyal opposition will come, one day, and when it does the dabbled administration and its politicking presi-

dent had better not forget to duck.

GOP Holding Off
And so it is with the Republicans just now and with President Johnson. Politics as usual is not for the Republicans during this period of mourning for John F. Kennedy. The citizens would resent it, and that is that.

But no such hazard frustrates the political activity of JFK's successor, nor should it. A president who undertook to observe a political truce would be abdicating his responsibilities as chief executive. The presidential job is politics and if there is no politicking the job is not being done.

So it is that President Johnson has been the busiest man in Washington in the past two weeks politicking with labor leaders, Negro spokesmen, congressional leaders and such. Some Republicans are becoming unhappy as Johnson's activity is publicized and their own activity is submerged.

They know better, however, than to break the truce. So they await during the decent interval, honing their weapons while for blood-letting when the second session convenes in January.

Revolt Effect Still Felt

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst
"The Soviet army which crushed the Hungarian revolution seven years ago, plans to leave Hungary in the next few months, diplomatic sources said. —UPI news dispatch from Moscow.

It was 8 o'clock in the morning on Nov. 4, 1956, and over Budapest Radio came the desperate cry: "Help Hungary! . . . Help us! . . . Help us!"

Just before that had been the playing of the Hungarian national anthem, and before that an announcement by Premier Imre Nagy.

Soviet troops attacked the Hungarian capital with the open purpose to overthrow the legal government," he said. "The Hungarian troops are in combat. . . This is announced to our people and to the world."

Story Of Courage
The following days were a

of change has been speeded up to a dizzying degree. It is startling to realize the fact that 90 per cent of all scientists who ever existed are alive today.

What is frightening about a future war, and what makes it so unfeasible from every point of view except the suicidal, is that governments have become the sorcerer's apprentices. Science is the sorcerer, which more or less knows what it is doing and can control its experiments; but governments use science for their own purposes, and are not wise or disciplined enough to be able to control all the possible results.

We cannot know what the next decade will bring in terms of mass destruction, any more than Wells could know how decisive the airplane would be in modern transport and warfare. All we can know is that the potentialities for annihilation of the human race far outrun our capacity for survival, and that the sorcerer is becoming the victim of his power-mad apprentices.

story of human courage raised to incredible heights, of treachery compounded, and, in the West, a time of agonizing indecision.

The reappraisals and the harsh recriminations for what might have been would come later.

On that morning in the blasted streets of Budapest men, women and children hurled their home-made Molotov cocktails beneath the treads of Russian tanks or threw themselves bodily against tank portholes.

It was an unarmed population against 200,000 Soviet troops and four to five thousand Soviet tanks, and before it was over more than 20,000 Hungarians were to die.

These were some of the memories evoked by the dispatch sent from Moscow seven years later.

Announces Withdrawal
This had been the sequence of rapid-fire events:

Oct. 27-28—Nagy announces Soviets had agreed to immediate withdrawal of Russian troops from Budapest and negotiations for withdrawal of troops from the whole of Hungary.

Oct. 29-30—Nagy ends single party rule, forms an all-party government and promises free elections. The new government includes Janos Kadar.

Nov. 1—Nagy repudiates the Warsaw treaty and proclaims Hungary's neutrality.

Nov. 3—On this night, on a Soviet guaranty of security, Hungarian military leaders meet with the Soviets to negotiate withdrawal of Soviet troops. The Soviets arrest the Hungarian leaders and launch their attack. It was the same treachery which had been employed against Polish military leaders in 1945.

Nov. 4—Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty takes refuge in U.S. legation in Budapest (where he still remains). Soviets recognize turn-coat government of Kadar. Nagy takes refuge in Yugoslav Embassy.

Hour of Decision



EDSON IN WASHINGTON . . .

Ax-Grinders Board LBJ Ranch Wagon

By PETER EDSON
Washington Correspondent
WASHINGTON (NEA) — The way all the pressure groups are climbing aboard the Lyndon B. Johnson ranch wagon—often for conflicting reasons—is the political phenomenon of the age.

At first there were some predictions that President Johnson would have heavy opposition from the liberals who in 1960 didn't even want the tall Texan for vice president.

Just two months ago this sentiment was so strong that there was much speculation L.B.J. might be dropped as vice presidential candidate on the 1964 Democratic ticket. It took a denial from President Kennedy to stop the rumors.

After Johnson became President, almost his first endorsements came from American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations, Americans for Democratic Action and the 80-organization Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. That ended the liberal revolt against Johnson.

Since that time many special interest groups of all varieties have issued voluntary statements supporting Johnson. Some of these testimonials even come from opposing camps.

For instance, the Citizens Foreign Aid Committee—which is against it—says that since Johnson had pledged strict economy, he will "seize the golden opportunity" to curtail government foreign spending.

Supporters of AID, the government's Agency for International Development, however, cite a speech Johnson made just before he became President, in which he said, "The foreign aid program has been a success. . . . We must turn away from those who counsel that the works of peace represent failure."

U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Edwin P. Neillan wrote Johnson that the chamber was heartened by the President's emphasis on the need for a tax cut "to stimulate job-creating investments."

But now comes James B. Carey of the AFL-CIO Industrial Unions with a statement that, "the recently reported 5.9 per cent unemployment rate emphasizes the need for immediate passage of consumer-oriented tax legislation."

If the new President can satisfy both management and labor on a tax bill, he will indeed have to live up to his billing as the greatest compromiser and fixer of all times.

The curious thing about Johnson's support for fast action on civil rights reform is that it has not yet met serious opposition from the South.

"There," as one political leader puts it, "they recognize that Johnson is a wheeler and a dealer." They'll let him make civil rights speeches to the northwesterners to win votes. But southerners expect Johnson to soften the blow as it will affect them."

This penchant for wanting to make the new President "our boy" characterizes many endorsements the lobbies now put out.

Thus the American Public Power Association, and the Cooperative League of the USA, supporting rural electrification and public power, claim Johnson as theirs.

So do the National Education Association, supporting federal aid for schools and teachers' salaries, the National Council of Senior Citizens supporting medical care for the aged under Social Security, the National Farmers Union, Committee for a National Trade Policy, AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education, National Association of Home Builders supporting private housing industry and others. But there are a few exceptions.

National Right-To-Work Committee has told its members that Johnson is clearly committed to repeal of section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act. This recognizes the right of the states to enact and enforce local right-to-work laws, which the committee wants retained.

And Rep. Jerry Ford R-Mich., while endorsing Johnson's promises to defend freedom from communism from Berlin to Viet Nam, declares: "On the other hand, it should be noticed that the new President endorsed all of the federal spending policies. . . . I reserve the right to oppose where conscience dictates."

These are but first straws in the winter winds to indicate that the honeymoon isn't going to last forever.

Weather Effect On Jets Demands Careful Study

By BRUCE BLOSSAT

With the crash of the big U.S. jet in Maryland, the time may be at hand for a sweeping general study of the effects of severe weather turbulence on all of this nation's major jet models.

The three principal categories are the Douglas DC-8, the Boeing 707 and related models, and the Convair 440 (or 990).

All of these are swept-wing aircraft, and questions are arising about the relation between this design element and violent drafts of air.

The Elkton, Md., crash involved a 707 and put a rare blemish on Pan American, a pioneer U.S. overseas airline with an incredibly good safety record.

Federal investigations may take months, if not longer, to sift the cause of this accident, as they so often do. But they are immediately skeptical of eyewitness accounts suggesting the jet was destroyed by lightning.

With the possible exception of

a freakish accident to a TWA piston-engine Constellation over Milan, Italy, there is no known case of lightning having seriously damaged a metal-skin aircraft.

In investigators' minds, the turbulence accompanying a heavy rainstorm over Maryland is a likelier beginning explanation. This could have produced structural failure, with fire and explosion a consequence—not a cause. Most reports of mid-air explosions, given by ground eyewitnesses, prove totally erroneous. But now and then such bursts do follow a plane's breakup in flight.

What should lead investigators in the Civil Aeronautics Board to mount a more general review of jet safety is the fact that several of the big planes seem to have been drastically affected by violent weather.

The CAB report is still not complete, but it is known that weather is a prime suspect in the crash last February of a Boeing 720 (a modified 707) in the Florida Everglades. Heavy thunderstorms were reported in the area.

There have been several instances where U.S. jets have been caught in tremendous downdrafts which nearly produced major tragedies. The most recent occurred near Houston. An Eastern Air Lines DC-8 plunged thousands of feet before being pulled up—and lost a jet engine in the process.

Some aviation specialists are wondering about these encounters. They say swept-wing planes sometimes are buffeted into stalling position by severe drafts and wrenched out of control. Structural failure may follow extreme pilot effort to restore control.

But in all this there is too much guesswork. Recent jet history is sufficiently perplexing to justify the most thoroughgoing inquiry into this clearly vital safety matter.

BARBS

With little kids running around the best thing to try on your piano now and then is furniture polish.

The latest shock from a dry cell is the report that a bootlegger was running his business from pignon.

BERRY'S WORLD



"Step on it you guys, I've got to get back to the office Christmas party!"