

Editorial Page

Commendable Project

Junior Chambers of Commerce, including Klamath Falls, do a lot of worthwhile things in a community. The lighting contest our boys are staging at the moment will bring a lot of Christmas atmosphere to the city. It's an event from which both the participants and the viewers get a good deal of enjoyment.

The Jaycees at Portsmouth, Ohio, rate a kudo, for a project they undertook this Christmas season. They managed to get clearance to extend an invitation to a Russian family to visit the United States and especially Portsmouth. The family attended

a chamber of commerce function, had the chance to shop at a supermarket and take in several typical American affairs.

"We are delighted to be in your great country and we feel lucky we were chosen to come here," the father of the family said through an interpreter.

The Portsmouth Jaycees were looking for a suitable "Peace on Earth" project. They found it in some "men of good will" from Russia. Letting the people from the U.S.S.R. see us in action seems to be the best way to build understanding between the two nations.

Paying The Piper's Rent

It seemed too good to be true, some months ago, when we learned that Washington's new cultural center, once it had accepted a site owned by the Government, would be financed entirely by voluntary contributions. And it was—too good to be true.

Now the Congress is being asked to authorize \$15.5 million in Federal grants to the project.

Originally, the idea was that anyone who wanted to foster culture in Washington could contribute to the center. Now, as tax money will be used, it means that everyone will be required to contribute, whether he has the slightest interest in culture or Washington.

There isn't any question that Washington could use an opera house, a symphony hall and another theater. Opera used to play at the Capitol Theater, a gaudy movie palace, but the wreckers got it. The local symphony orchestra now plays in enormous Constitution Hall, which was not designed for the purpose. All legitimate theaters but one have vanished.

There isn't even any question that the people who go to the new cultural center will need parking space, for which \$11,000,000 is to be spent—a figure that works out to about three times the worth of the average car parked in each space.

The question is, should all taxpayers everywhere be taxed for entertainment facilities for Washingtonians? Residents of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Detroit and other cities support theaters, opera houses and symphony halls through ticket purchases and philanthropy. Washington, our wealthiest city in terms of personal income, certainly could do the same.

The residents probably would be happier, in the long run, if they did. If the Government is a major sponsor, they may expect Congressmen to be the most vociferous critics and fill the pages of the Congressional Record with their personal ideas as to cultural or non-cultural values of the performers.

He who pays the piper calls the tune.

Democracy Faces Crisis In Korea

By PHIL NEWSOM

UPI Foreign News Analyst

In Seoul, South Korea, lines of tattered, hungry men form for a morning handout of food from a Catholic missionary relief kitchen.

Factories stand half completed. In the last year the price of rice has doubled. Rents and consumer goods prices have risen steadily. It is estimated that about one-fourth of the country's labor force is unemployed.

This is some measure of the economic crisis facing the new Third Republic of Korea which came into being on Dec. 17 when Gen. Park Chung Hee, leader of Korea's ruling military junta, switched hats and became the nation's freely elected president.

The junta had ruled South Korea for a little more than two and a half years and the economic problems it passed along to the new Third Republic were being inherited by the same men who helped create them.

Park ran as the candidate of the junta-backed Democratic Republican party, and he was accompanied into his new office by many another military man who hastily slung his army uniform to campaign as a civilian.

Honest And Orderly

But there was an important difference. Even Park's political opponents agreed that Korea's elections had been the most orderly and honest in Korean history, and, politically, a good start had been made toward democracy.

producing luxury goods strictly for the home market.

The result has been inflation and a serious depletion of Korea's foreign exchange.

This has been in spite of the fact that in the last 10 years, U.S. economic and military aid to South Korea has totaled more than \$4 billion.

U. S. current aid is running at around \$160 million annually.

Slow To Mend

Despite U. S. insistence on economic reforms and the prospect of a decline in U. S. spending and despite many promises, the Korean government has been slow to mend its ways.

There have been other sources of irritation between the two governments.

One such came when the Korean government secretly negotiated to purchase more than \$6 million worth of Australian food grains. The United States held that Korea suffered from no such grain shortage.

Another arose over the late President Kennedy's failure to congratulate General Park on his election to the presidency.

But there remains hope.

The fact that Park now leads a strong government has led to predictions that Korea and Japan may be able soon to settle their long dispute and bury the ill-feeling left by 33 years of Japanese occupation. U. S. officials long have been convinced that cooperation between the two is essential to a healthy Korea.

BERRY'S WORLD



"I have a big surprise for you, folks... the Commander-in-Chief closed my base!"



IN WASHINGTON . . .

Johnson Should First Cut Waste

By Ralph de Toledano

One congressman has already saved the taxpayer \$35 million in the procurement of a complex of electronic systems—and he has shown that the Pentagon wasted \$85 million on the same purchase. This is something that President Johnson should ponder as he moves to cut 75,000 people from the Defense Department's civilian payroll and to shut down 20 installations.

The President's "economy" efforts may or may not weaken this country's defenses. That is something for Congress to investigate. But the elimination of waste in procurement will not cut out jobs or slow industrial wheels. If Mr. Johnson wishes to reduce the Defense budget, he should call on the General Accounting Office to give him the facts and figures it has amassed on this waste—and then call Defense Secretary Robert McNamara to task for allowing and defending it.

this space with some frequency. But Rep. Earl Wilson (R-Ind.) keeps uncovering new examples. He is responsible for the figures I mentioned above. Mr. Wilson has fought a single-handed battle to force the Pentagon to procure its hardware by competitive bidding (which the law requires) and to do away with sole-source buying at inflated prices.

For two years, he has been studying the pile of documents involved in one transaction—a complex of radio systems including the AN-PRC 12 and the AN-PRC 25 walkie-talkie. As a result of forcing the Pentagon to open the AN-PRC 12 contract for competitive bids, Mr. Wilson saved the taxpayer \$10 million. Some \$50 million had already been wasted in overpayment to the sole-source manufacturer. The AN-PRC 25 walkie-talkie and another system in the three-way complex have already cost \$50 million more than was necessary because of sole-source procure-

ment. Competitive bidding will bring down the cost by \$25 million.

The Army communications complex involved in this procurement deal are but one of many in which sole-sourcing costs the taxpayer billions of dollars every year. At the Pentagon, it is often said that though the bill may be higher when the sole-source method is used, there are real advantages. Speed of delivery and familiarity with the product are the two most often cited. Procurement officials insist that they make out much better with the companies they know.

The case of the AN-PRC 12 proves just the opposite. The low bidder, when competition was permitted, was the highly experienced Magnavox company. Representative Wilson says it is "making the radio on schedule, is making a profit, and would like to have more business at the same price." He adds: "As a matter of fact, it delivered the pre-production

model a month ahead of schedule."

It is, moreover, not unusual for the low bidder to be the previous sole-source manufacturer. In the case of the AN-PRC 25, the producer cut his price in half and won the bid when he was faced with competition which could have taken the contract from him.

But the waste—or worse—is not only in the procurement of military hardware. The Navy Purchasing Office has been going to the well with astonishing frequency in what seems like a mad rush to "stockpile" supplies and office equipment. In 1962, for example, it needed four electric stapling machines. These are available for a maximum of \$24 from the Federal Supply Schedule. But the NPO went to a favored wholesaler and paid him \$44.75 each.

Then the NPO bought 24 (not four) machines at this inflated price, with no known reason for wanting the additional 20. And there were, at the time,

13 electric staplers sitting in the NPO warehouse, never used. The NPO, what's more, had an overstock of 3,000 staple removers, half a million sheets of carbon paper, 3,838 ballpoint pens, 4,568 ballpoint refills, and five miles of Scotch tape—to name but a few items. According to Mr. Wilson, the NPO issues a new eraser every three days to each of its 100 employees.

In a \$53 billion budget, this supplying in order to give a friend the business—may seem like small potatoes. But multiply it by the great number of offices, agencies, and bureaus at the Pentagon and the figure becomes significant.

Secretary McNamara is considered an excellent executive. Did he permit these kinds of practices when he was president of the Ford Motor Company? This is the question President Johnson should ask him when next they discuss those 75,000 civilians who are getting their pink slips just before Christmas.

WILLIAM S. WHITE . . .

New Appointment Welcomed By Latins

WASHINGTON—There is elation among Americans with personal knowledge of Latin realities at President Johnson's appointment of Thomas Mann to pull together—and singly to head—our somewhat confused and overlapping programs dealing with Latin America.

That Mann is the man for the job is the view of an extraordinary range of Latin buffs. It is a range including Senate liberals, Senate moderates, Senate conservatives and practical American businessmen with long experience in the countries lying to the south of us.

The liberals are happy because Mann, who grew up along the Texas-Mexican border and knows the Latin mind as well as he knows his own, has a long record of active—and effective—interest in the economic and social progress of Latin America.

Business is relieved because Mann—like his chief, President Johnson, who has always been a favorite of Mexican-American voters in this country—has never confused an authentically liberal approach to Latin America with any notion that legitimate American interests should not be fully protected. This includes American property interests.

For illustration, any further confiscation of American property in Latin America will surely not be looked upon kindly by the new Washington head of Latin-American affairs.

A peculiar ability to get along with Latins, meanwhile never forgetting that he represents the United States, Mann has many times shown, most recently as American Ambassador to Mexico. The regime there is leftist though anti-Communist, and Mann is a political moderate with a strong and open at-

tachment to democratic capitalism. Nevertheless, he fared notably well with President Lopez Mateo, who considers him one of the best Ambassadors ever to serve in Mexico City.

And this is the reason: The Latins—like all other peoples, but perhaps even a little more so than most—respect honest power honestly and fairly used. They do not want from us mere reformist-minded spokesmen awash with vague good will but unable to perform. They want sympathetic spokesmen, of course, but most of all, spokesmen able to talk candidly of the candid purposes of the United States Government from a personal closeness to the head of that government, the President. As much as anything else, they want at all times to know just where they stand with Washington.

All over Latin America they call Mann "sympatico"—not meaning that he is a croningly sentimental friend but meaning that he is a practical friend always ready to help but never ready for a moment to let down his own country. They know he is sympathetic to their problems; but they also know he is no Yankee apple polisher.

President Johnson, in fact, hesitated a bit over this selection. This was not out of the smallest doubt of Mann's capacities. It was because this, his first major appointment, necessarily would involve a man from the President's native state. If domestic politics had been a point, Mann would not have been the choice. The President went ahead in the conviction that the problem of assisting Latin America to come through the twin curses of left-wing and right-wing extremism, led by poverty and disorder, is

exceeded in gravity only by the problem of keeping peace in a nuclear world.

But to say that few public officials have ever entered high tasks with more wide and generous backing is not by any means to tell the whole tale. All is not now well; everybody will not now live happily ever afterward. No informed person can doubt that the road ahead will be very long and rocky.

No informed person can suppose, either, that even the most gifted director here of Latin-American affairs can do in one year, or two, or five, all that must be done. Given good fortune we may now be at the beginning of a phase of possible solutions for a huge area bedeviled by Castroism on the left, right-wing dictatorship on the right and, often, public apathy in the middle. That is the best that can be said.



Maximum Exposure Scheduled For Gov. Scranton

By DORRIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON — Maximum exposure of Gov. William Scranton of Pennsylvania in news and picture magazines and on television has been firmly scheduled. This is the word from the country's communications center, New York, to its political capital, Washington.

It suggests that the Eastern kingmakers of the Republican party believe that President Johnson can be beaten next year in the big states by a Kennedy type from the Kennedy generation. Prior to Dallas this group had entertained little hope of defeating President Kennedy, and many in it had been willing to give the right wing its fling with Sen. Goldwater.

President Johnson is 55. His political roots go back to the New Deal, and he has been powerfully in the public eye for 10 years. Scranton, 46, quietly slipped into Washington in 1959 as special assistant to the Secretary of State and served one term in the House before being drafted for the Republican nomination for governor in 1962.

Governor Scranton has resisted pressure on him to enter the New Hampshire primary. He has argued that he has work to do with his own legislature and cannot give the New Hampshire voter the handshaking attention to which he has become accustomed. Like Senator Goldwater, he is indeed more modest about his chances than his supporters and rather inclined

to wait and see.

The New Hampshire question mark thus remains Richard Nixon, Nixon urged a recent caller to return Jan. 10, as there might be news then. A Rockefeller backer had no trouble identifying the date as the one when filing opens for the New Hampshire primary.

It would seem a little unusual for two New York Republicans living in the same apartment house to run against each other in the New Hampshire primary, but there is no law against it. It is also unusual for a major party to rely upon building up a Presidential candidate for an election less than 11 months away, but this is, of course, the age of instantaneous communications. Nor must it be forgotten

that the big states effectively blocked serious consideration of Lyndon Johnson for President at the 1960 national convention.

The old misgivings will be muted at the first national Democratic gathering since Dallas. It is a meeting of the national committee here Jan. 4. No doubt one and all will profess to be very, very happy with the 1964 prospect, but it will be rather on the order of Congressional pretense that the Presidential Succession Act is serving the country well at this point.

President Johnson does not have an automatic hook into the new generation. The Catholics will not vote solidly for him, as they tended to do for their first

President, but will return to some degree to Republican allegiance. The party is in disorder in key states.

The new President also will be expected to produce much more from Congress than was President Kennedy. It has given little ground so far. "President" Harry Byrd of Virginia is doing about what he planned anyway with the tax bill, and so is "President" Howard Smith of Virginia with civil rights.

One of the biggest Johnson tasks will be to convince his old colleagues that he is in earnest when he adopts the Kennedy program and enlarges it. As that condition appears, it will be high drama to watch him cope.



WASHINGTON REPORTS . . .

Anti-Communist Solon's Life Threatened

By FULTON LEWIS JR.

WASHINGTON — Sen. Tom Dodd, militant foe of communism, is under police guard 24 hours a day. His life has been threatened.

The Connecticut Democrat received the first of four threatening letters a fortnight ago. The anonymous notes were followed up by a call to radio station WTRC of Hartford, Conn. An unknown caller vowed he would finish off the Senator.

District of Columbia detectives have been assigned to Dodd's office and his Washington home. The Senator, a mild-mannered individual, maintains he does not know why someone would want to kill him.

"I don't want to make a big thing of this. And I don't know why anyone is mad at me. It's just one of those things."

Police surmise that a fanatic left-wing has made the threats against Dodd, Congress' number one expert on the Communist threat. Dodd has run the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and has directed the group's two-year investigation into the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

The Fair Play group, Dodd

revealed, was heavily infiltrated by Communist operatives. Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, was once arrested for passing out Fair Play leaflets in New Orleans.

Dodd is not the only Congressman to receive death threats in recent weeks. Mail reaching Sen. John Tower was so abusive that he was forced to move his family out of town. Rep. Bruce Alger, the Republican who represents Dallas, received a chthonous letter that he had to take extraordinary measures to protect members of his office staff.

Government employees forced to buy \$100-a-plate tickets to Democratic fund-raising affairs will be interested in the comment of Sen. George McGovern. The South Dakota Democrat says that federal employees "ought to regard it as a privilege" to contribute.

The issue was raised by Sen. Frank Carlson, who took the Senate floor to protest ticket-hawking by representatives of the Democratic National Committee. Carlson, ranking Repub-

lican on the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee, said "career employees must be protected from political harassment."

Carlson referred to a story in the Washington Star by Joseph Young, who has covered the government for many years. Young said civil servants had received two communications from the Democratic National Committee in which tickets to a \$100-a-plate dinner were peddled. One of the letters was signed by Democratic National Chairman John Bailey.

Employees who make as little as \$6,675 a year were among those asked to purchase tickets. Democratic officials deny that any employee is pressured to buy a ticket. Career employees feel differently, Young said.

"They fear that unless they purchase the \$100 tickets their chances for advancement in their careers are apt to be jeopardized. Furthermore, they fear it puts them in an untenable position whenever there might be a change of national political administrations."

"They point out that one of the first things a new political administration does when taking office is to scan the list of con-

tributors to the opposite political party, to see if federal employees are on the list. This could and has led to recommitments against employees."

The West German Ministry of Interior has denied a request for entry permits from a group of Hungarian "folk singers." The reason: The "singers" were actually Communist Party organizers.

A guest on the Presidential plane when Lyndon Johnson flew to New York for Herbert Lehman's funeral was Joseph L. Rauh, leader in the Americans for Democratic Action.

Rauh has been a violent critic of the President. In 1956, as ADA national chairman, Rauh accused Johnson of dragging the Democratic Party to its "lowest point in 25 years."

In 1957, Rauh said Johnson had sold out the Democratic Party on civil rights, a charge he repeated through 1960 when he led the fight against LBJ for vice president.

Now Rauh is said to know he needs Johnson. And Johnson, never popular with the Democratic Party's left wing, is said to know he needs Rauh.

Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Thursday, Dec. 26, the 360th day of 1963 with five days to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase.

The evening stars are Jupiter, Saturn and Venus.

On this day in history:

In 1776, George Washington's army captured 1,000 Hessians at the Battle of Trenton after inflicting a major defeat on the British.

In 1865, the first patent for a coffee percolator was awarded to James Nason of Franklin, Mass.

In 1917, the federal government took over the operation of all U.S. railroads for the duration of the World War I.

In 1941, for the first time, a British prime minister addressed a joint session of Congress. Winston Churchill discussed the war in Europe.

A thought for the day — the British statesman Winston Churchill said, "Nothing in life is so exhilarating as to be shot at without results."