

Heat Of Hell On Brewer

TWO of the witnesses before the Brewster War Investigative Committee spoke of "the heat of hell" in describing the pressure that was applied in the competition over war contracts. Neither of them—Secretary of Interior Krug nor Henry Sawyer—was very clear about where the heat wave came from or what effect it was having and the question remained unanswered to the last day of the probe.

However, the fact that the probe was a mythical was demonstrated dramatically yesterday when Senator Ferguson, chairman of the Investigating Subcommittee, called off the hearing until Nov. 17, and Howard Hughes predicted that it would never be returned.

The manner in which the hearing was halted leaves an inescapable suspicion that no more sensational disclosures were about to be made. Republican Senator Ferguson's order for a recess came immediately after Mr. Hughes' statement.

Mr. Hughes' statement that he engaged in this elaborate party-giving operation to meet competition from other contractors and under pressure from people in the country is supported by evidence from many other sources. Lindsay C. Warren, Comptroller General, who audits Government accounts, has declared that "with money in the hands of the Government, it is an acceptance of entertainment, including

hotel bills, and even travel, from the contractor, while at the same time drawing travel expense and per diem from the Government, was the rule rather than the exception."

Howard Hughes' bill for \$164,000 in the public relations' account of his master ceremonies, Johnny Meyer, is but a drop in the bucket of the tax-deductible expenditures which have been made for the purpose of winning Government influence, all at the cost of the taxpayer.

This entertainment spurge is a part of the lobbying problem, which grew to such large and alarming dimensions in the first session of the 80th Congress. One quarter of the registered lobbyists spent almost \$3 million during the first six months of this Congress on activities designed to affect legislation. The Congressional Quarterly reports that some observers think that \$5 million is a more accurate estimate of the actual amount spent, since organizations like the National Association of Manufacturers, United States Chamber of Commerce and the CIO maintain that the Lobbying Act does not apply to them or require them to register as a group.

As the record of the Brewster probe indicates, it is his chief reason for showing the imperative need for a Congressional investigation of all the lobbies and the whole "entertainment" question. Unless the present investigation is revived in November, the Senate will have to face an unsavory business, then the Brewster probe must be written off as a fiasco. Thus far the Republican promise to air Democratic "confusion and corruption" is notable because it is the only one of Elliott Roosevelt and Howard Hughes.

Royall's Gubernatorial Prospect

DREW PEARSON'S report Saturday that Secretary of War Kenneth C. Royall is "pure blue" to run for Governor of North Carolina in 1948 will receive explanation among those who, at this early date, find discussion of the 1948 primary campaign to be a fascinating diversion from the Summer doldrums.

Secretary Royall has been "mentioned" as gubernatorial timber for a number of years; his Washington activities, culminating in a brief tenure as War Department chief, have given him a status which is beyond dispute. It is his ability to lead him alone that would serve him well in a state campaign. Although Senator William B. Unstade has disclaimed his intention of seeking a tie-in with a candidate for Governor in 1948, it is not surprising that he has not done so.

We doubt that the Secretary has committed himself as definitely as Columnist Pearson would have us believe; assuredly he will not enter the race until he is certain that his chances will merit it. Furthermore, a man of Mr. Royall's ability and stature will not run merely for the negative purpose of damaging the candidacy of Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Royall is an astute observer of the Tar Heel political scene, he will not be fooled by the current sentiment that Candidate Johnson cannot be overtaken. It is

excellent political strategy, of course, to support one's favorite candidate as a "sure blue" to run for Governor of North Carolina in 1948. It is also a very strong candidate from making the race, as well as to attract the support of numerous small fry who wish to stay in favor with the state administration. The Johnsons have, however, made admirable use of this tactic.

The people, however, remain to be convinced that the State Treasurer already has obtained a lease on the Governor's North Carolina support. It is not surprising, at this time, are aware of the approaching campaign, and many commitments will be withheld until the gubernatorial picture is in much clearer focus.

North Carolina is not so devoid of outstanding leadership that one man can rightfully claim a monopoly of it. Secretary Royall is one of a number of potential candidates who would brighten the campaign scene. It is his ability to lead him alone that would serve him well in a state campaign. Although Senator William B. Unstade has disclaimed his intention of seeking a tie-in with a candidate for Governor in 1948, it is not surprising that he has not done so.

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'Captain Tom' Of Charlotte

THERE already are numerous impressive monuments to Thomas Griffith, who died yesterday, but there is to be none more enduring than the memory of him among the people he lived with and loved.

To a rare extent he was identified with Mecklenburg County and Charlotte. He spent his entire life—83 years—in this community, but it wasn't the length of his residence that made his career a notable one. It was the quality of his life that afforded him the opportunities he saw in citizenship.

Mr. Griffith's conception of the privileges and the obligations of democratic citizenship was enlarged by his own early experience, in which he rose from humble circumstances to financial success. He quickly accepted it as his duty and pleasure to work for the expansion of that opportu-

ity for others, and in so doing contributed to more than the progress of his own immediate community. For example, his pioneering activities in the creation of the North Carolina Highway Commission not only brought Mecklenburg a nationally known secondary road system but also served as an inspiration of the North Carolina highway program of 1931.

The public good that results from the growth of a strong and independent individual was illustrated in many other ways in the life of Thomas Griffith. He set an example for two generations in his expansion of his own private business and in his civic, fraternal and political undertakings. No one questioned his right to be called "Captain Tom" or was other than happy to bester them, with ever a few recollections in the trust sense of the term, a captain.

Another Voice

Mavericks In The GOP

THE power of Republican Party discipline is to be applied, it is said, when the chance comes, to rid of Senator Morris of Oregon. It is a Republican who has voted much of the time with the liberal Democrats. He is in accord with his party about as often as Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska used to be, or the elder Alf Landon of Wisconsin. As such he is a thorn in the Republicans' side. They would like to be quit of him.

Senator Alton of Vermont is another Republican whose votes have given deep pain to the Tar Heel school. Old Vermont is a stubbornly No Republican. He has been in the office for 12 years. He would like to go. But isn't it trying to find Vermont what to do. But isn't it trying to find Vermont what to do. But isn't it trying to find Vermont what to do.

The Republicans can console themselves for the loss of Morris and Alton with the steady allegiance of such Senators as "Pappy" O'Daniel and Harry Byrd. Such is the informality of our politics, with always a liberal or two among the Republicans to bester them, with ever a few recollections among the Democrats—Atlanta Journal.

Public revenues from alcoholic beverages hit a record high of nearly \$1.7 billion in 1946, according to the New York Journal of Commerce. Of this more than \$2.12 billion went into the Federal Treasury. These revenues—starting with a profit of \$25,000,000 in 1923—now rank between the income tax as the country's most prolific income source.

A one-box of popular soap flake can fill a five-room house with suds, the like of which has never been seen in Alaska, even when something went wrong with the home brew.



People's Platform

Plank For Sunday Golfers

I AM very much depressed by Mr. J. McLaughlin's letter to the Governor, in which he asked the Governor's cooperation in publicly condemning those citizens who are given to desecration of the Sabbath.

In his letter Mr. McLaughlin lamented the fact that he would not be able to command observance of the Sabbath. I should like to mention to Mr. McLaughlin that a state and not a city cannot be clothed with this authority, but that, also, he actually is not clothed with it. Further, I should like to express my own private opinion to the effect that this limited authority is not due to an oversight on our part.

It may just take one kind of people to make a religion, but it takes all kinds to make a state. I doubt very much if Mr. McLaughlin would like for any group to get together and decide what he could, or could not, do on Sunday. He had rather work out, kind of, with his own conscience.

I am reasonably sure that, if Mr. McLaughlin were, as a Sunday golfer, he would strongly re-echo a law that said that he couldn't be a Sunday golfer. The reason I am so sure of my Sunday golfer, is that I have marked upon the entire citizenship, and they agree, almost to a man, that they wouldn't like it if he had passed saying that they couldn't be Sunday golfers.

If Mr. McLaughlin was a Sunday golfer, and yet willing for Governor Cherry or somebody to tell him that he couldn't any more be a Sunday golfer, then I would more charitably consider Mr. McLaughlin's letter to the Governor, but I suspect that, Mr. McLaughlin is not a Sunday golfer, and I suspect that if the Governor were to take the most drastic action imaginable on Mr. McLaughlin's letter, it would not inconvenience Mr. McLaughlin one whit.

There will, of course, be 75 ministers in our country who will back up Mr. McLaughlin. I don't know their interpretation of the Golden Rule, but it couldn't possibly be construed to mean, "Do unto Sunday golfers as you would have non-Sunday golfers do unto you if you were a Sunday golfer."

I realize that Mr. McLaughlin, with his letter, was seeking more the social disfranchisement of the Sabbath desecrators, rather than legislation preventing the desecration. But he doesn't know my ministerial association here. A couple of letters like his and they let the Gospel go to go off on another legislative adventure. Anyways, Charlotte voters recently heard the practice of voting their own opinions, so laws may be done.

I should like to take exception to one statement in the letter to the Governor— "If we publicly condemn such our moral influence will begin to show." I am sure that the entire citizenship, the County me out of that one. You and the Governor can condemn me publicly or privately, and I'm still going to try to do my own thinking.

—A. E. BASSETT.

Drew Pearson's : Secret Group Influences Navy Promotions

THE Navy on long has had ordered an investigation of Green Bowlers, a powerful secret fraternity inside Annapolis whose members are charged with boosting each other up the Navy ladder. The new Green Bowlers have been secret and no one knows how it will come out. Meanwhile, this column also has been devoted to the mysterious Green Bowlers and here are some of the results.

The name derives from the green bowl on the mantelpiece of the organization's first clubhouse on the second floor of Carvel Hall, Annapolis. Ronald Murray Brantard, class of 1865, is reported to have been one of the first members, though the Green Bowlers did not really get active until 1890.

Today, with 28 admirals and one Marine Corps general, the Green Bowlers are a long way from the little band of drinking companions. However, many of them are placed in key spots where they influence promotions and can dominate the Navy.

The Green Bowlers operate through a secret but simple system. Every year, Green Bowlers out as faculty members of the Naval Academy, the new Green Bowlers are politically minded or outstanding midshipmen. Among the Green Bowlers listed at the Academy has been crew coach Frank Walsh.

Wage Hikes And Union Dues

BACK in the 1930s when the textile workers in the South were working 60 hours a week for \$3 and not able to pay their union dues, the big labor bosses up North couldn't see a blushing thing they needed. But when Roosevelt and Johnson got in, the labor bosses up North couldn't see a blushing thing they needed.

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Purging The Arts

This is another of Paul W. Ward's articles in the series, "Life in the Soviet Union." He had done it under the name of the Baltimore Sun.

CURRENT developments in the field of Russian arts and letters contrast sharply with the Communist Party's professions to Harold E. Stassen about "Russo-American cooperation." The Communist Party's Molotov's May Day assertion that he and his fellow Bolsheviks are "full of our strength."

Visitors to Moscow find the Soviet intellectual world—which includes playwrights, poets, novelists, movie producers and musicians—purged by a "bloodless purge" based on:

1. Patent fees that the idealistic Soviet artists and writers are not allowed to receive. 2. The Communist Party's professions to Harold E. Stassen about "Russo-American cooperation." The Communist Party's Molotov's May Day assertion that he and his fellow Bolsheviks are "full of our strength."

3. A determination, accordingly, to rid Soviet literature, drama and music of all "alien influences" and, besides making them ideologically pure, convert them into instruments of propaganda warfare against the western democracies.

4. The Red Army press—Krasnoarmeets, in particular—has been assaulted, too, for "bourgeois deviation." 5. The Red Army press—Krasnoarmeets, in particular—has been assaulted, too, for "bourgeois deviation."

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Cutting The Cost Of War

JUST as sure as night follows day, the United States will have other tough wars to fight. It costs billions of dollars to wage modern war, as witness the \$60 billion of carry-over debt from the last war plus some six billions of yearly interest to pay on that debt.

Put into war can be waged with interest free dollar money issued by the United States Treasury for direct Government spending. The Government, in turn, would collect from the people the actual cost of waging war, using the present income tax set-up, but with no interest cost involved.

Such a monetary change is vital for the reason that interest cost alone stands to pyramid the national debt to the bankruptcy of our economy.

—W. R. HOWARD.

Senator Soaper Says:

SOMETHING about the short determined rainy-day Option, one of the most powerful parts in the program, will be the open umbrella savings that wouldn't be used if the rain didn't come.

Hollywood would dearly love to do more business overseas, and if Germans complain of our food maybe they'd settle for a double feature and a dish.

Who's Who Among Green Bowlers

A. F. Pfeiffer, Chief of Personnel, who as Admiral W. H. P. ...

Marquis Childs

FOR nearly 75 years the Federal Government has been trying to regulate transportation. The effort at regulation began when the railroads struck out across State boundaries and the Interstate Commerce Commission eventually came into being to police them.

Subsequently, other commissions have tried to cope with the problem. The Federal Maritime Commission, for example, at the time of the record will not encourage those who champion the principle of free competition and reasonable rates.

What happens is that gradually the interests grow up. The interests of the railroad, the shipping line, the steamship lines comes to seem identical with the public interest.

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Sensitive Congressmen

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