

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1951

'SUGAR AL' ELLENDER SOUNDS OFF

SEN. Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana has returned from Europe with, he says, thirteen notebooks full of evidence of "the damndest scandals" in foreign aid spending. According to the AP, he said some of our officials in Germany "are hard up to spend the money fast." We've never heard it put quite like that, but we believe he was trying to say, as he would tell his constituents, that these officials are "livin' too high on the law."

overseas activity, but did not make any specific proposals because it felt "that this complicated problem requires further detailed study before any definite conclusion can be reached." The Commission recommended that Congress direct a comprehensive study be made of the entire program. Last July 23 the Senate unanimously passed and sent to the House a bill which would create a commission, similar to the Hoover study group, to make a comprehensive study of our overseas administration. The following day a Senator got through a motion to ask the House to return the bill. The effect of this move was to kill the bill. That Senator—you guessed it—was Mr. Ellender.

CELOSITY—BUT NOT FOR COMMUNISTS

THE President, at his last press conference, talked off-the-record to reporters regarding the Korean trade negotiations. He permitted his remarks to be sent over the wire services, for officials' confidential information. The American public, though, was not permitted access to these remarks. Reporters from Tass, the official Russian news agency, and the New York Daily Worker attended the conference. Presumably they got forward the classified information to their bosses.

It is difficult to regard Mr. Truman's leadership with confidence when he commits such blunders. If he would say "All right, I pulled a bone," here is the information I unfortunately classified. Our TV has come into a somewhat restored. But judging by his previous action, we can expect little but bureaucratic silence or another tirade against the press.

BROADCASTERS DILEMMA IN '52

TELEVISION is expected to play a big role in the election next year. The tremendous nationwide interest in the Kefauver Crime Commission hearings showed that politics and government can greatly interest many people, although the added feature of crime, sin and Grade B movie type characters in Kefauver's drama undoubtedly made for a larger audience. The election of Rudolph Halley, chief counsel for the committee, to chairmanship of the New York City Council, is credited largely to television, which overnight raised him from relative obscurity to heroic proportions in the eyes of many New York voters. If not the eyes of the underworld.

likewise give time to the opposing candidate. And, according to the Communications Act, "licensees shall have no power of censorship over the material broadcast." However, if the candidates libel someone, in this speech which the broadcaster cannot censor, the broadcaster is subject to libel proceedings. As an official of the Federal Communications Commission put it: "We can't protect the stations in such instances. Congress has established the law, and the Commission is forced to enforce it."

This lesson of TV has not been lost on candidates, some of whom, we suspect, are secretly improving their stage technique, consulting dietitians, and perhaps even visiting the wigmakers. But because of confusion in the law, TV's new role is still an unpleasant dilemma in the forthcoming election. Before the Congressmen mount the hustings they had best take the broadcasters off the hook.

Are we to teach our grandchildren that Santa Claus and his eight reindeer, tripping over "the now-fallen snow," ever grow old or get lost in the fog and have to depend upon the Rudolph beast with his red nose to get them back in line on the Christmas night trip?

DEPARTED PRESTIGE

SHOE manufacturers swear you get more out of your shoe money than ever before. But we contend there is a commission there leaves the owner of a new pair of shoes far short of the prestige he enjoyed yesterday. That's because they don't squeak. There was real distinction in the old-time saddle shoes. They were made of a material almost prohibitive \$2.50, and they were made of it. But when the rare occasion did arrive, they loudly evoked the attention of the owner was too modest to seek himself. In hereditary they gave one proper heraldry without danger of rebuke.

Perhaps, as the now-fangled makers contend, there really is more quality to the modern product; more miles to the dollar. Yet in the protection they have banished a valued mark of distinction, quelled an accepted area of proud dignity. This loss we put in the same nostalgic category as the puffless Diesel train. Childhood will be less joyful because of it.

The Miracle Of Christmas Week



People's Platform

Letters should be brief, written on one side of the paper. The writer's name must be signed, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

To Heck With Rudolph

IT IS pretty hard for an individual who has reached middle age to file a protest against the so-called modern ideas, customs, code of ethics, and the purported trend in human thinking. However hard we oldtimers try to fall in line with what we believe are warped and distorted conceptions of human thought and behavior, there are times when we just can't make it. We are unable to subscribe to some of the ideas that are today being thrust upon the youth of the land in the name of modern progress.

Christmas Greeting

AT THIS Christmas season, all members of the Third Army join me in extending greetings to you and members of your staff. In reviewing the relationships of Third Army with the community, I find that none have been more cordial or cooperative than our activities with the News. We greatly appreciate your cooperation and fine spirit and, in the coming months, we shall again be glad to determine effort to merit the support you have given us in the past.

Note Of Appreciation

THIS is to thank you for the generous manner in which you have cooperated in the Memorial Hospital campaign. Your editorial and news coverage have been exceptional and we are deeply grateful to you for your interest. Please accept my congratulations to you for the outstanding job you are doing through your fine newspaper.

Churchill And Truman Face With Biggest Problems Yet

WASHINGTON is going to have to pull some sort of rabbit out of his hat when he goes to Washington in the next few days. Like it or not, he is often heard in the inner Tory circle in London. To understand why Prime Minister Churchill is so badly needed is a rabbit in his oddly shaped hat. It is only necessary to consider the circumstances which he is making his latest in a series of historic journeys to the United States. His country is in a desperate economic plight. In cold statistical terms, this is the most serious British economic crisis since the end of the war. The gross product of the country in the last four months of this year is likely to top the billion dollar mark. This amounts to a sort of economic hemorrhage. Somehow this outflow of the British economic lifeblood—the marriage of safety on which the whole of the sterling area operates—must be stopped.

Churchill will arrive in Washington well knowing that by now the recurrent British economic crises are a very old story to the United States. The wolf which has been gnawing at the British door, and which has seemed about to burst through the door in 1949, and again now, has been a very real wolf indeed. But even if it is not a wolf, it is a pestiferous creature, and it is perfectly true to cry "wolf, wolf," too often repeated, tends to lose its meaning. It has lost its meaning even in repetition. The British, moreover, are a proud people, and when, in December, 1950, it was announced that Britain could not support a further American economic aid, this had a profound and emotional impact on the British. It felt as one of them said recently, "as though we could hold up our heads again." For Churchill, newly installed as British premier, and for another large infusion of American aid would be a tremendously unpopular act in Britain. However clear the need may be, the outlines of a temporary gluing operation are already fairly visible. The American people, it is believed, is reared to give priority to the purchase of about 10 per cent of the total American output that somehow something like \$500-

Ruark Manages To Survive Sains Yogurt Or Vitamin Pills

NEW YORK (The Food) FODD that afflicts us—in the form of black-strap molasses, y o g u r t, when you've had your's, I've been commended by opponents with commercial axes to grind, has generally become the thing of the past since the prevalence of pills became a national preoccupation. It seems to me that even the old Gaib's old boy friend, Gaylord Hauser, wrote that book, no good hauser with a tongue to wag, has ceased wailing.

Eisenhower Talks Straight To Churchill

England would join the European army was if the United States would join too. Finally Churchill promised that England would provide planes for the European army in addition to framing the plan. However, he refused to commit himself to the European army or on the Schuman Plan. But he did say that he appreciated Eisenhower's frankness, and would consider all the points he had brought up.