

State Politics

Umstead Key Man In New Alliance

(This is the last in a series of articles on Senator William B. Umstead of Durham, successor to the late Senator John W. Bailey.)

By PETE MCKNIGHT News Editor, The News

DURHAM — A political alliance in Eastern North Carolina, disjointed and loose-knit to be called a "machine," has gained new prominence in the past few weeks.

The alliance, generally referred to as the Umstead-Martin-Graham-Horton group, is not so strong yet as the so-called Carolina Club in Western North Carolina, but it gives promise of widening greatly in the next few years at least.

Umstead and his brother, John, are the driving force in the alliance. Umstead is a powerful figure in the Lower House. His avowed project here is to lead the health program, and the service of the state. He is a tough and able fighter, whose vigor is his chief asset.

Umstead is cautious, calm, scholarly, dignified, reserved, a practicing Christian, and has a wide range of interests. He is a member of the Raleigh News and Observer, and is active in many of the city's organizations.

Umstead is effective because of the overwhelming power and logic of his reasoning, and his arguments are strengthened from his well-modulated voice. His brother, John, is a powerful figure in the state.

Mencken's Deal Contract Pays Off With Suls

BALTIMORE.—(AP)—H. L. Mencken has a movie contract the like of which contract-happy Hollywood stars never dreamed of.

Marshal Petain Seriously Ill

PARIS.—(AP)—Marshal Petain, 86-year-old Vichy leader of France, is seriously ill in his home in exile on a small island off the coast of Brittany, his attorney, Jacques Lory, said today.

Plans Made For Labor Legislation

Senate Bills To Be Presented

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Senate Republicans agreed today to introduce a slightly revised version of the Case Bill as the "commencing point" for labor legislation.

The new bill will be sponsored by Senators Ball, Republican, Minnesota; Taft, Republican, Ohio; and H. A. Smith, Republican, New Jersey.

A general approach was recommended by the subcommittee, and the House will introduce a revised Case Bill, with only "brief hearings" with a view to speedy action.

Separate bills to amend the Wagner Act and outlaw the closed shop, even though hearings and action later.

Senator Milkin, Republican, Colorado, told reporters that the Ball-Taft-Smith bill will be introduced as a commencing point.

The Case Bill was passed by the 1945 Congress and vetoed last June 11 by President Truman.

The bill would have a National Employment Board with authority to order strikes off during study of the dispute, and to order the employer to pay back wages.

FINANCIAL REPORT The House will introduce a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act, which would require unions to file financial statements.

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Fog and Snow Prevent Search

Nine Men Aboard Seaplane Disappear In Polar Wastes

By ALTON L. BLANKESLEIGH A POLAR PLANE OF THE U. S. S. MOUNT OLYMPUS IN THE ICE during last December. (AP)—Nine men aboard a big Martin Mariner seaplane disappeared about a week Monday in the Arctic.

The plane vanished in the area of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Sea and James W. Ellis. A land report message from the men did not arrive until they were rescued.

The same two-engine plane earlier had made the first flight of the whole expedition. Rescue officers held out hope the men still would be found either floating on the icebergs.

Manipulation Alleged In Criminal Charges Filed In Butter Market Probe

NEW YORK.—(AP)—A criminal information charging the Dairywomen's League Cooperative Association Inc., its president, Henry H. Rathbun, and three members of the executive committee of manipulation of the price of butter on the New York Mercantile Exchange was filed in Federal Court today, U. S. Attorney John P. X. McGohey announced.

The criminal information, similar to an indictment, stemmed from the drop of ten cents a pound in the wholesale butter price on Dec. 26.

The information charged manipulation of the price of butter on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The government alleged violation of a section of the United States Code, which prohibits manipulation of the price of any commodity in interstate commerce.

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Police-Created Angle Of Slaying Mystery Solved

Charge Royal Slap Army

KANSAS CITY.—(AP)—One angle of the brutal slaying of a handsome male nurse—the mysterious midnight slaying of a nurse whose brother battered her—was solved today with the discovery that it had been police created.

The slaying of the nurse, which occurred in Kansas City, was the result of a police-created angle. The police had created a mystery around the case.

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Income Tax Cutting Bill Pushed Hard

Knutson Seeks To Speed Vote

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Chairman Knutson, Republican, Minnesota, of the House Ways & Means Committee, determined to jam his tax-cutting bill today through Congress quickly, said today it will be sent to a House vote without hearing from anyone but the committee witnesses.

The committee will receive testimony only from the Secretary of the Treasury and Congressional tax experts on Knutson's proposal to cut taxes on incomes up to \$300,000 by a straight 20 per cent, the Minnesota tax reporter.

Mr. Knutson said today he was "overly optimistic" in setting April 1 as effective date for the \$3,000,000 reduction in 1947 individual income taxes.

"If this bill has had sliding it will be entirely due to lack of knowledge on the part of the members of Congress," he said.

"We take the position there won't be any revenue loss. In the long run we will get more revenue by increasing business through the encouragement of a higher tax rate."

Knutson figured his 20 per cent cut, limited to the first \$300,000 of any individual income, would benefit about \$500,000 persons. On those beyond \$300,000 the cut would be limited to 10.5 per cent.

There are only 100,000 Americans in the bill's upper brackets, Knutson said.

As now drawn the measure would reduce on April 1 the tax with holdings above \$10,000 and slashes the tax on \$100,000 and \$200,000.

Knutson ran into lively opposition from Democrats and fellow Republicans called for compromise to insure reduction of tax slashes.

ENGLI BILL Howard in the Senate, Rep. Engle of Michigan, offered a tax bill right behind Knutson's, proposing to raise the top rate on incomes above \$100,000 from 90 to 100 per cent.

"If we're going to have any sense, we've got to have a few men," he said.

Indonesian Battle Ends BATAVIA.—(AP)—A Netherlands spokesman said today that four-day battle in Medan, Sumatra, had finally ended after small Indonesian forces were repulsed before dawn yesterday.

Virginia left Columbus with him New Year's Day of her own will and that they originally planned to be married at Bowling Green, Ohio.

Chosen By People

Bilbo's Right To Take Seat Is Defended

SEN. JOHNSTON WASHINGTON.—(AP)—If the Senate denies a seat to Senator Bilbo, Democrat, Mississippi, it would be the first time in the history of the United States that a Senator-elect has been denied a seat.

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Senate May Be Kept In Session Day And Night

Both Sides Firm On Seating Issue

By JACK BELL WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Republican Senate leaders were reported in mid-afternoon today to have enlisted the aid of Democratic Leader Barkley, Kentucky, in an effort to end the Theodore G. Bilbo seating battle.

Barkley, confronted with Republican threats to keep the Senate in continuous session over the weekend and night, was expected to seek a mediator's role in the stalemate.

There were indications that the Democratic leader would move to seat Bilbo, as demanded by some Southern colleagues. If this motion failed, as expected, Barkley then would be prepared to move with Republican Leader White of Maine for the immediate seating of 35 other Senators-elect who are waiting to take the oath.

As these maneuvers went on, the so-called Senate "plungers" urged a non-stop session that threatened to break President Truman's record for longest session.

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Two Held In Beating Case

ATLANTA

ATLANTA.—(AP)—Edwin J. Folz, special agent in charge of the Atlanta FBI office, today announced the arrest of two brothers on charges of conspiring to injure Golden Lamar Howard, nineteen-year-old Negro, in connection with his testimony at a Grand Jury probe into the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Folz identified the two brothers as "Johnnie" and "Tommy" Verner, 26, of Campbell Co., Ga.

Howard yesterday was brought to Atlanta by the Citizens Defense Council, a Negro group formed after the lynchings. The committee said their action was to "protect" him.

At that time, Howard told FBI agents he was severely beaten and his eyes almost blinded during the morning to discuss ways of breaking the deadlock which is holding up the swearing in of other senators-elect.

KEEP ON FIGHTING Atlanta, Senator Wherry, Republican, Nebraska, the Republican Senate Whip, told reporters: "We're going to keep on fighting."

Describing as a filibuster the actions of the Senate, Wherry said he is insisting on his being sworn in before others awaiting the oath.

Wherry said the Senate will be carried on as long as the Senate can muster the necessary votes to bring the session to a close.

"Bilbo conferred with other Southern Democrats before the session started," Wherry reported. "It is still status quo."

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WEATHER Partly cloudy and colder this afternoon and tonight with less snow. A cold front moving through the region, clearing and cooling. Temperature at 1:30 today 34°. Wind light S.W. 3-5 mph. Sun set today 5:18. Sunrise tomorrow 6:58.