

Pass The Buck Back To The Top

IT HAS BEEN said that when a whim gets into Louisiana's Rep. R. Edward Hebert (pronounced "A-Bear") it sits there gnawing like a boll weevil until he does something about it. The thought that some U. S. servicemen are being bilked by unscrupulous insurance salesmen has apparently been gnawing for some time. This week, with many a flourish, something was done about it.

Mr. Hebert's House Armed Forces subcommittee called upon the Defense Department to revise immediately regulations governing the sale of insurance to GIs both at home and abroad. If appropriate action is not taken, the Hebert group warned, corrective legislation will be proposed when Congress meets again.

The Pentagon should not dally. Insurance rules should be reviewed and revised without delay. There is indeed evidence of laxity and abuses—particularly at overseas stations. The trouble can be traced to one of the most ineffectively inefficient systems for controlling insurance sales imaginable. Present regulations require, of all people, the regular commanding officer of an installation abroad to

license companies and agents operating within his command. As the subcommittee noted, this makes him, for all practical purposes, an insurance commissioner—with none of the facilities, background, training and knowledge needed to do a proper job. It is considerably less than miraculous that trouble has resulted and swindlers have moved in.

The serviceman is, in many ways, a highly dependent individual. Hardy a free agent, he must look to his superiors for competent counseling and reasonable protection on even such a personal matter as insurance. When his superior is "knowing" or "innocent"—throw him to the wolves they are failing to discharge a vital responsibility.

The Pentagon itself is to blame for carelessly passing the buck downward to field commanders. The Hebert subcommittee's recommendation that the secretary of defense accept an offer by the Association of Insurance Commissioners to provide the department with a five-man advisory board to review the qualifications of companies seeking to do business at overseas bases. It is a reasonable solution and should be adopted.

Heads-You-Win-Tails-I-Lose Program

WHEN the Department of Agriculture announced triumphantly this week that it had gotten rid of all the cottonseed meal and cake it acquired under 1954 price support operations—using a polite rattle of applause around Washington.

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But administration farm officials earned no accolade. In accomplishing their little feat, they lost about \$900,000 of the taxpayers' money—driving stocks below what it cost to acquire them.

Actually, Uncle Sam wound up with \$99,872 tons of cake and meal through his efforts to prop cottonseed prices. Under this program the government agreed to buy meal and cake as well as cottonseed oil and linters at specific prices from crushers who had paid at least 75 per cent of parity prices to producers for cottonseed.

So far, so good. But of its total takeover, the government admitted selling 166,016 tons of cake and meal right back to the crushers at reduced prices. In other words, the crusher—Uncle Sugar agricultural products at one price and buy them right back at another—lower—price.

Our King is off to Charlotte's Murlan O. Hat, newly crowned "best barber in North Carolina." He won a hairbreath victory Monday over 12 other experts at a convention of the state's Master Barbers Association in Durham.

But we note with some concern that judges made their awards on the basis of "style, not substance." There is no mention at all about conversation. Style is fine but a modest trophy at least should be reserved for a class composed solely of the fast, silent type. Leaders of "Pitch" will remember that Caesar's favorite barber was a "busy, listening fellow." And when "a prating barber asked Archelus how he would be trimmed, he answered: "In silence!"

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Early Guards For Early Birds

FOR THE SAKE of early birds, traffic guards should go on duty a few minutes earlier at bustling intersections near Charlotte public schools.

School traffic guards were not scheduled to be on duty until 8 o'clock. Very young children—yesterday's victims, were aged 6 and 8 years—are a shifty, unpredictable lot and hardly clock watchers. They need all the protection they can get at busy crossings.

This was brought rather painfully home to city-dwellers yesterday when two Alexander Street School children were struck down by an automobile at N. Brevard and E. 13th Sts.

A few minutes earlier for traffic guards would not be an enormous waste of time and might conceivably save a life or two.

Down The Stretch, Running Scared

"IF WE don't win the pennant, we're going to scare the heck out of somebody."

The ship-of-state is going to run around if it depends on us, for this deal in the American League is fright-ening.

Although it sounded like a pre-season burst of optimism, it is a recent statement by Manager Pinky Higgins of the Boston Red Sox on the subject of the American League pennant race.

We've already dropped our bundle on Brooklyn in the National League run- away and we had wanted to recoup in the American.

His team is perilously close to the top of the American League ladder, a position reserved by the experts for either Cleveland, New York or Chicago.

We suspect that Manager Higgins was thinking in terms of those glamorous stalwarts when he said his boys were going to scare someone. But, Pinky, it's us you've got shivering.

We're plum scared to death. We can't keep our mind on the impending football season or whether Ike will or Adlai

Pinky, it isn't those American Leaguers you're frightening. It's us.

W. E. H. In The Sanford Herald

FOOD SWAPPING

WHAT school of thought does your family belong to in this business of swapping food around in restaurants?

suggestions will have his child ordering another, reserving for himself the privilege of ordering a third and totally different one on the subject of the American League pennant race.

Once a family or a couple gets their orders in a restaurant or cafeteria, there seem to be three main schools.

One, and I'm sure this is the one Emily Post recommends, believes each member of the family should order what he wants, eat it and it alone and not be exchanging his viands with somebody else.

The second school believes it is had etiquette to swap or exchange foods, but furiously does it just the same. Addicts of this school peer around to see if the waiter or other customers are watching.

Of course I understand a son-in-law told a local friend that was the worst thing about being married into the Horn-ner family—they're forever swapping their viands around and embarrassing him.

The third school frankly believes a restaurant or cafeteria may be an opportunity to get several choice foods. An expert in this school will wait until his wife has ordered an entree, then by skillful

dam site over to a private company. Senators also charge that Kuykendall told the joint congressional atomic watchdog committee a falsehood last November. He was asked whether FPC lawyers had played any role in reviewing the then proposed Dixon-Yates contract.

Foot In Mouth

He denied vigorously. "Our lawyers were not called into this... We did not ask our bureau of law to get into the legal phase of it."



With The Register and Tribune Syndicate

"He was bound to crack-up... His whole appeal as a newscaster was based on gloom and doom, and with the Reds throwing kisses to everybody, well..."

Fire In The Ashes

The Revival Of Japan

By WALTER LIPPMANN

ONLY A remarkable man could have carried himself as did the Japanese foreign minister during his visit to Washington last week. For between him and this country there are things that men do not forget—in our part the treachery at Pearl Harbor, on his part Hiroshima and his own imprisonment after the war. Mr. Shigemitsu was every inch the foreign minister, friendly but not in the least effusive, tactful but unusually candid.

He covered much ground in his speech to the National Press Club. But he made it plain that the burden of his mission was that "the time has now come"—though "we cannot make changes over night"—to "revise our defense relationship."

FROM WITHIN

The joint statement issued in Washington says that Japan should "assume primary responsibility for the defense of its homeland and be able to contribute to the preservation of international peace and security in the western Pacific."

FOR we have not only been occupying Japan in foreign relations with Japan, not in place of Japan, in dealing with Korea and Eastern Asia it is good advice. For no settlement in East Asia can be permanent in which Japan does not participate as a principal power.



SHIGEMITSU A. DULLES 'Tactful But Unusually Candid'

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round FPC Chief May Face Impeachment

Editors' Note: While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation, his column is being written by members of his staff.

Runaround

Hide The Ping-Pong Balls; Here Come The Lawgivers

By FREDERICK C. OTTHMAN

WASHINGTON

LOOKS like most of our high-flying lawgivers, who've been investigating the far corners of the world, now are on their way home. They still have investigations in their blood.

Sen. Allen J. Ellender, (D-La.) who's been making headlines lately with his cordial invitations to Moscow big-wigs to visit the land of the free, shortly will open a national tour of America investigating farm price supports. He and his fellow members of the Agriculture Committee hope to discover whether the farmers are as unhappy as some Democratic political reports would seem to indicate.

PING-PONG BALLS

More About Meat

With the help of a North Dakota Lions Club, which has agreed to sift through 1,000 pictures to see whether they are unfit for young eyes, the Senate will look into pornography as a cause of juvenile delinquency.

Automation

People's Platform

Ike Was Misled

Charlotte

BOTH the state and national politicians are responsible for the confusion that exists between the races. Both the northern and southern politicians have promised the Negro many favors "ward equal rights."

When President Eisenhower made his campaign speech here in Charlotte and in Columbia, S. C., he said that he would not advise the federal government to interfere in the states rights.

Some of the news correspondents seem to think that he won't ask for another term, but I think he will.

The President began playing politics strongly when he asked for the nomination of Gov. Warren for the chief justice of the Supreme Court. That was a bid for the Negro vote in 1956.

And later on, he asked for the nomination of Mr. Harlan to sit with Gov. Warren on the Supreme Court bench.

Had it not been for these two nominations I don't think that the Supreme Court would have made the two decisions that have caused so much strife between the Negro and white race.

I have not finally turned against Eisenhower because I have always admired him as a general and as President.

When the next presidential election arrives I hope that I can say, "I like Ike."

—L. L. CHILDRESS

Are West Virginians Showing The Way?

Editors, The News: THE CHILDRESS are back in school. For the past three months of school vacations we have read letter after letter pro and con on the question of school desegregation. Before that we read how our



SEN. ELLENDER Who's Upset?

You can get an argument on either side. The Senate likewise will be deep soon in a study of the narcotics traffic, which seems to involve these oriental Communists; apparently they are trying to flood the rest of the world with opium and its derivatives.

Other senators will delve into the problems of unemployment (which can't be too serious at the particular moment) and of low income families. They'll consider our foreign economic policy, and whether it's making friend or foe. Many a legislator will testify from fresh, firsthand information garnered during this summer's tours.

CAPTIVE GAS MEN

The House Ways and Means Committee will take up the possibility of slashing taxes next year and may give us some idea of how much we can expect to save. The House is worrying about automobile sales and surpluses, as well as the plight of so-called captive gasoline station operators. They claim they do as they're told, or they lose their leases.

The gentlemen will also look again into the problem of alien property disposal, which seems to grow worse even as it grows whicker. Our government still controls certain German properties confiscated during the first World War, while corporations taken from the Germans during the second war grow more embarrassing with each passing year.

CHARLOTTE

When President Eisenhower made his campaign speech here in Charlotte and in Columbia, S. C., he said that he would not advise the federal government to interfere in the states rights.

I believe that Eisenhower was sincere in his belief at that time for he was not a politician, but since he has become President he has varied from the promise he made to the southern voters due to the fact that he has been misled by some of his political advisers in Washington in order to gain the Negro vote.

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