

The Times-Picayune

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Bill To Stop Federal Preemption

Sen. Byrd made a strong speech in favor of the House bill of his Virginia colleague, Rep. Smith, to clarify the so-called preemption doctrine relative to implicit repeal of state statutes by federal statutes where no direct, positive conflicts of statutory provisions are involved.

This doctrine did not originate with the present supreme court. It presumes that when Congress enacts comprehensive legislation on any subject, it intends to take exclusive jurisdiction, nullifying state laws on that subject. It originated prior to the time, as Sen. Byrd points out, when Congress began legislating "on nearly every conceivable subject," particularly under the interstate commerce clause. It has gained broader significance in proportion. Alabama was held powerless to enforce her own pure-food laws. A writ of certiorari has been granted indicating a possibility Wisconsin will be prevented from exercising ordinary police power for preservation of peace and order in labor disputes.

Narcotics and kidnaping are among other subjects of laws involving concurrent jurisdictional fields from which the states may eventually be forced. Indeed it is a wonder more state convictions have not been upset through this doctrine. Perhaps only the "split" nature of supreme court decisions involving it has been a deterrent.

The clarifying measure, which is pending also in the Senate, denies the courts the right to presume an intent to preempt, under "no-conflict" circumstances, but requires that the intent be expressed in the federal legislation. This is a good bill; and its enactment by the Senate alone should give pause to any assumptions by the courts regarding intent which are not apparent in the record. There is little reason to believe, however, that Rep. Celler, chairman of the House judiciary committee, would voluntarily un-bottle such a measure.

Good Teen-Ager Business

In at least two ways the program of the Junior Achievement of Greater New Orleans Inc. lives up to its name of being a good business achievement. It reveals how free enterprise makes the wheels of business run and it gives teen-agers a sense of participating in this American system. For the program, which has marked the end of its first year in New Orleans with a banquet honoring outstanding junior "achievers" and their advisers, represents a living-by-doing activity that actually gives young people of the community opportunities to work for a business objective and come to an understanding of what capital, labor and management are and accomplish under the American system.

In operation on a national scale for the past 12 years, the Junior Achievement program now covers 25 states and 66 cities. Its major objective is to give high school students practical, on-the-job, pre-employment business experience. By working with experienced businessmen in forming an actual miniature company and carrying on its operations, the teen-agers are given unexcelled opportunities to learn. Someone has described the program as the "4-H Club of Business" because the youngsters sell stock, raise capital, decide on a product or service, buy raw materials, tools, keep books, make sales and pay wages, rent and dividends.

For business firms, the program represents unusually good business, we would say, because it demonstrates not only how the American free enterprise system works successfully but also because it shows how the community's business leaders are genuinely interested in the businessmen of tomorrow.

Talk of penalizing pedestrians who jaywalk in Canal st. is resumed with no suggestion of any restriction on the corner turning cars which force so many pedestrians to jaywalk.

Kennon Administration

Outgoing officials get little public attention, but we believe the now closed administration of Robert F. Kennon has left some firm imprints on Louisiana governmental history.

As much or more than any other recent administration, it seems to us, Mr. Kennon's moved away from personal government and toward citizenship participation and responsibility for state operations. Under him, citizen boards administered the large state agencies, civil service was fastened firmly into the state constitution and personal political appointments may have reached an all-time minimum.

The spade work for clean, impersonal government and the close-out of the patronage system was done back in the 1940-44 administration of Sam Jones. Some of the gains were lost later on, but the Kennon administration recovered and extended them.

Mr. Kennon kept a campaign pledge to reduce some state taxes. Growing yields from other taxes have much more than compensated for the adjustments.

Least heralded among the constructive acts of the administration were the radical improvements made in the plants and in the operations of the penitentiary and the insane hospitals. These are not gains from which political reward could be expected, but they are an affirmation of humane and progressive policies of responsible government.

Some serious criticism of Mr. Kennon has been made for catering to members of the Legislature by giving his support to innumerable building projects in the parishes and cities, and for his refusal to take more responsibility for the acts of his citizen boards. It cannot be said, however, that the buildings were useless or that his refusal to interfere with his boards was not in line with announced policy.

On the whole, the Kennon administration brought a refreshing climate to the administration of state affairs. There were, of course, exceptions. We believe that in looking back over the last four years, most citizens will agree that on balance, a beneficial job was done at Baton Rouge.

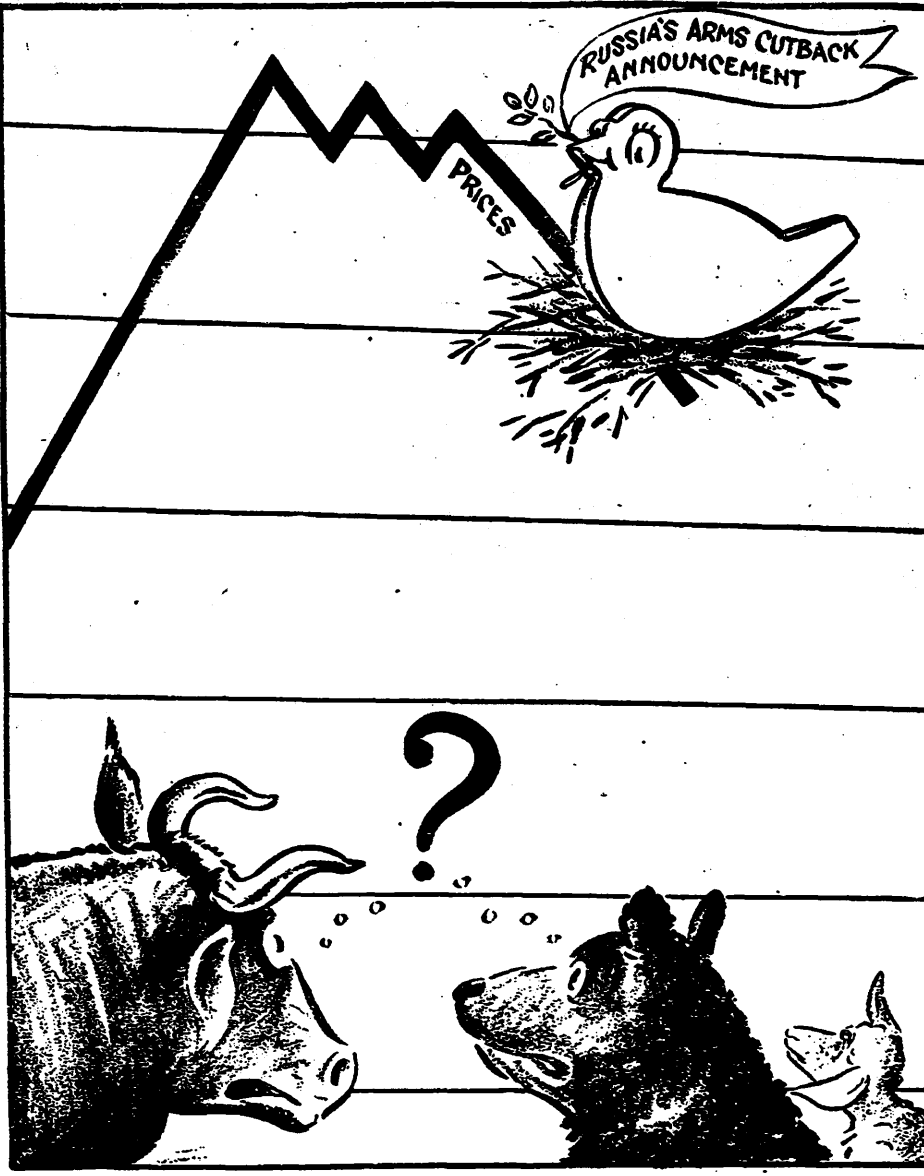
Case of Missing Frogman

Although the government had acceded last week to a Labor party request for a House of Commons debate on "the case of the missing frogman," Prime Minister Eden Monday night refused to do more than say that both national and international interests are involved. Any debate, he suggested, might injure currently amicable relations with Soviet leaders. This was tantamount, of course, to acknowledging the disappearance of Lt. Comdr. Lionel Crabb is directly connected with the visit to Portsmouth Harbor of the Soviet cruiser Ordzhonikidze, which brought Russian leaders Bulganin and Khrushchev to Britain last month. Denial of debate or further statement will be taken in some quarters as confirmation of stories now circulating that Comdr. Crabb was involved in some kind of espionage against the cruiser.

Few can doubt that the British are just as zealous in efforts to examine Russian cruisers as the Russians are when British ships visit a Soviet port. It may be presumed that the British vessels that put in at Leningrad last summer were thoroughly scrutinized. When the cruiser Sverdlov came to England for the queen's coronation in 1953, it probably got as thorough an examination as was possible.

The prime minister has declared neither he nor any other cabinet officer was responsible for the incident—that is, did not assign Comdr. Crabb to whatever task he was engaged in. That statement, no doubt, has led to speculation that Comdr. Crabb's disappearance comes about in the course of one of those services of the intelligence agent which necessarily remains unheralded and unacknowledged.

New Animal in the Stock Exchange?



The Military Front US Anticipated Red Move

By PETER LISAGOR

WASHINGTON — Moscow telegraphed its "punch" — but the Western powers may get a black eye out of it anyhow.

That's the estimate of diplomatic officials after Moscow's announcement of a 1,200,000-man reduction in armed forces before May, 1957.

Western intelligence had this move apparently well-taped. Presidential disarmament adviser Harold E. Stassen had predicted the cut for two weeks. So, apparently, had Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson.

Several hours before the announcement hurried out of Moscow, Wilson told the Senate foreign relations committee, "it's no different than our own 'new look' . . . three years later."

Wilson's point was implicit, namely that the Russians are shifting emphasis from large ground forces to air power and streamlined units with nuclear weapons.

The impact of the Soviet announcement is expected to be considerable, especially among the neutral and the nervous nations of the free world.

ACCORDING to Stassen's estimates of Soviet manpower, the announced plan for demobilizing their soldiers will bring Moscow forces down to about the US level of \$2,900,000.

But, short of first-hand inspection, nobody can be sure whether the cuts actually will take place. There isn't even certainty in the West that Moscow carried through its announced 640,000-man reduction last year.

The Moscow announcement came shortly after senators had given Secretary Wilson and Admiral Arthur W. Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a sharp grilling on the necessity for a \$3 billion military aid program this year.

RADFORD declined the role of a Cassandra, but he also refused to picture the world in the same rosy hues as most political officials here.

He blamed a softening of resolve in the Free World not only to Soviet sweet talk but to what he called a "less dynamic approach" by the US.

The admiral disagreed with his civilian boss, Wilson, who thought the Russians might find some trouble in satisfying their customers in the political and economic field. The assumption, he replied to a question, would be unwise.

Both Wilson and Radford resisted efforts to persuade them that American emphasis should be shifted to economic aid.

In a burst of candor, Wilson flatly admitted that the US ought to wait to see what the Russian "changes" really mean before cutting back. Quite frankly, he said he didn't know what they meant at this time.

Daily Bible Verse
 St. Matthew 7:1-3

Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

And why beheldest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? — William Reed, 8923 Fig.

Crucial Test in Algeria

French Hope to Impose Order and Hold Elections
 By WALTER LIPPMANN

PARIS—It is a bold man who, coming from the outside, presumes to talk about the French problem in North Africa. For myself I cannot see far into the problem for which there is no, so far as I know, any example anywhere else of a successful solution.

Yet it is plain enough that a crucial test is about to begin. In about four weeks the French government in Paris will have deployed in Algeria the military forces—about 400,000 men—that it judges to be necessary to pacify the country and to contain the active rebels in their mountain fastnesses. When that has been done as now planned, Paris plans to hold elections. From them there are to emerge Arab leaders willing and able to negotiate a peace.

The terms of that peace are not published but they are based on the concept of autonomy for the Algerian Arabs within the framework of the French state.

There are some, as good judges as any, who believe that this official policy will have been tested by the autumn.

A VISITOR soon learns to realize that he must not think of Algeria as another in that series of countries to be evacuated—in the series which began with Lebanon and Syria, went on to Indochina and has recently come to include Tunisia and Morocco. In a sense that these other countries never were, the French think of Algeria as a national interest. That is because at least one-seventh of the people of Algeria are Frenchmen. Algeria is not an economic asset. Indeed it is a liability. It is to the large community of Frenchmen that the French at home feel themselves bound. There are signs of a mounting popular will to stand by them and not to let them become a helpless minority in a sovereign Arab state.

In the months to come there

Today's Talk
'Own Custodian'
 By GEO. MATT. ADAMS

Lack of interests is what is making so many people neurotics, complainers, and habitual fault-finders — welcomed by no one. Life can be made beautiful, intriguing, and thrilling. A worker who is happy in what he does keeps climbing higher, and takes others with him!

We are our own custodian. We create out of all that we are. Life is interesting all along the way — if we are interested, and interesting as well. "Walden," by Thoreau, is one of the most stimulating books I have read. I go back to it again and again. He wrote: "I left the woods for as good a reason as I went there. Perhaps it seemed to me that I had several more lives to live, and could not spare any more time for that one."

Thoreau made life always interesting to himself, never worrying about an income, for he gathered it everywhere he went. And today the knowledge he gained and the philosophy that he created for himself are shared with millions. His "Walden" is truly one of the world's greatest books. Life was always interesting to Thoreau.

I like meeting people. Each one is so interesting. From the many we select our friends.

—History—
5 YEARS AGO
 May 16, 1951—George S. Dinwiddie was elected president of New Orleans Public Service. The Coast Guard returned to the lakefront building it occupied during World War II to convert it into barracks for lakefront patrol. The Senate approved a shipment of two million tons of grain for India on a loan basis. Chinese Reds in Korea opened their second spring offensive.

10 YEARS AGO
 May 16, 1945—Mayor Morrison's proposal to license handbooks and slot machines in New Orleans brought a blast of opposition. President Truman merged the government's welfare activities under the federal security agency.

25 YEARS AGO
 May 16, 1931—John M. Heyn, president of a pioneer steamship firm, died at 73. The right of the Democratic party in Texas to bar Negroes from participating in that state was upheld by a US court of appeals.

50 YEARS AGO
 May 16, 1906—William J. Barbur, last of the old-time fencing masters who thrived in the day of the duel, died here at 60.

Views of Readers

Overpass Speeding
 New Orleans.
 Editor, The Times-Picayune: Something should be done concerning the traffic situation on N Claiborne ave. overpass. Some cars are going down the pass anywhere from 35 to 50 mph. That goes for cars going up towards same, picking up speed a half block away.

How can a car stop in an emergency traveling at that speed? Another fact is that most drivers ignore the stop signs on Clouet st. Instead of stopping above the signs they stop at above them, interfering with pedestrians crossing the intersections.

"SPIDER" KOROLIA.

'Toothless Laws'
 New Orleans.
 Editor, The Times-Picayune: An armed thug held up a liquor store on Baronne and got \$40 cash and a fifth of whiskey, according to the statement to police. This same store has been held up at least 15 times and the clerk himself has been held up at least nine times.

Two or three of the robbers were captured; one was shot in the leg by a patrolman, Edgar Hebert should be awarded a medal for his courage. The Lord must have his arms around him. I was told one of the holdup men was captured by police, tried, sentenced to one year.

When a person holds up another person at the point of a gun or other deadly weapon in 34 states, it's a capital offense; for armed robbery in Louisiana it's one year in the parish prison or from two to 10 years in the penitentiary. In 29 states it's a penitentiary offense for carrying a pistol; in Louisiana it's a \$100 fine or 60 days.

What kind of action do the lawmakers have in mind to check these holdup crimes? Let them put some teeth in these laws dealing with armed robbery and concealed weapons.

JAMES ARTHUR.

Talk of Resigning
 Bossier City.
 Editor, The Times-Picayune: It excites people to read or hear an officer or candidate say he will resign if this or that occurs or does not occur. For the past 20 years we have heard that often; but no one has yet resigned. All kinds of gambling ran rampant in South Louisiana from 1856 to 1940, and from 1948 to 1952, and no one resigned on account of it.

In a recent campaign one candidate said if it could be shown his previous platform said he would not raise taxes he would quit the race. It was later revealed he had simply written letters that he would resign. Wouldn't it be less exciting, if the candidate and officer would sometimes resign, rather than dramatically declare it so often?

D. C. CALHOUN.

Police Work Lauded
 New Orleans.
 Editor, The Times-Picayune: On April 12 our place of business was broken into and burglarized by some juveniles. These juveniles were apprehended by two officers, members of the shotgun squad, Patrolmen Anthony Polito and Edward O'Donnell.

I have watched police operations throughout the city and I sincerely believe that we have the most outstanding police force in the country.

I compliment these two officers for their kindness and gentlemanliness towards our company and also to their very kind treatment towards the juveniles. I also want to compliment Supt. Provosty Dayries.

VINCENT J. LORINO.

Discomfort
 New Orleans.
 Editor, The Times-Picayune: Hoary for Helen Thayer: She must be quite a considerate person.

Our postmaster is a hard working and conscientious man. He has tried and tried for many a year to have new fans or air-conditioning put in our post office, but to no avail. The general services administration is to blame. It won't appropriate the money for fans, much less air-conditioning. The heat is exhausting. The few fans we have are seldom oiled or cleaned. When they break down they are either left alone or hauled away. The electric system is old and outdated. Numerous wires are in bad condition, and the fire fighting hoses

Night Football
 New Orleans.
 Editor, The Times-Picayune: It is rumored Tulane is considering lighting the Sugar Bowl stadium. The stadium is in a zone A residential neighborhood, where night games would be a nuisance. The loud broadcasting, band music, widespread parking, souvenir and popcorn vendors, program salesmen and shouting would be very disturbing until late hours.

Most colleges are in suburbs without close neighbors. Tulane is in the midst of an exclusive neighborhood, including Audubon Blvd., Audubon pl., Versailles, etc. The value of all this property, including nearby rental property, would be seriously affected.

CLOSE NEIGHBORS.

Washington Scene Policies-Policy Battle

By GEORGE DIXON

WASHINGTON — Most bureaucrats love to give up power the way a junkie loves to give up dope. This is what makes a current bureaucratic fight inside the Federal Trade Commission so utterly fantastic. Two of the commissioners are trying to surrender some of their power.

To preserve a measure of bureaucratic rationality, the three remaining commissioners are trying to hang on to it. This would put the power-keepers in the ascendancy, except that one of the power-shedders is the chairman, John W. Gwynne. The other is the FTC's most outspoken figure, Lowell B. Mason.

COMMISSIONERS Robert T. Secrest, Seward Anderson, and William C. Korn, want to retain the commission's power to control the trade practices of the accident and health insurance companies, particularly their advertising. Chairmen Gwynne and Mason want to turn it over to the states.

The battle is now joined, and will probably have to be decided by Congress. But the betting is that Gwynne and Mason will win. If they don't, there will be such a ruckus inside the FTC they'll have to summon a fair practices squad to enforce fair play.

Gwynne and Mason agree that the accident and health insurance business is in great need of regulating. Of the 200 companies doing this type of business, 40 have been cited by the FTC for misleading advertising, and most of the others have been culpable in varying degrees. They have been accused of misleading policyholders. They'll lead the buyer, for instance, to believe he's being insured for life, when, actually, it's only for a year.

They'll lead you to believe that if you have an operation they'll pay hospitalization of \$1,500. They will, too—if you have the front lobe of your brain, or your entire torso, removed. But they may pay only \$11.75 for an appendix.

Gwynne and Mason, however, take the stand that this kind of business can be best cracked down on by the states where the insurance companies have head offices. The majority of states have insurance-regulating departments, or commissions, of their own. In fact, at last count, 38 states had their own regulating agencies, and most of the remaining 10 were showing symptoms of doing something about it.

The desire of Commissioners

Gwynne and Mason to divest themselves of power is so unthinkable in this power-craving community, that their very reason is being questioned. After all, one of the prime rewards of being a bureaucrat is to have the nation's business, financial, and industrial leaders coming in, hat in hand, to beg the regal indulgence.

But heathy though this medicine may be, Gwynne and Mason want less of it. When the latter was asked what bureaucratic aberration motivated his attempts to abdicate power he got off one of the most potent lines I have ever heard.

In one succinct sentence he seemed to sum up the whole federal versus states' rights issue. He declared:

"When a state goes off half-cocked it creates only one forty-eighth as much of a mess as when we do."

Notes on the News

THE SENATE Appropriations Committee was holding closed door hearings on the defense bill. A steady stream of the nation's biggest brass flowed through the guarded portals.

After the hearings had swallowed up Air Force Secretary Quarles, Army Secretary Brucker and all the chiefs of staff, a wag in the corridor said:

"There can't be an officer left in the Pentagon. What an opportunity for the Russians to launch a sneak attack!"

(C. 1954, King Features Syndicate)