

A Nation Pays Tribute . . .

EARLIER this week, Gladewater, Texas paid tribute to the late M/Sgt. Travis E. Watkins. Along with the citizens of this East Texas town, 150 members of the Armed Forces from Camp Polk, La., the Barksdale Air Force band, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the prayers of Americans across the country gave M/Sgt. Watkins a final salute.

Sweat—dripping slowly at first, then in steady rivulets—saturated the clothing of the crowd outside; yet, not a hand was raised to wipe a drenched brow. Five men,

Old Man Gets Hospital Hand-Out

FOR THE last two weeks, the American public has been following the touching story of a bearded, weatherbeaten old man who passed out in the streets of Reno, Nev. July 17.

The man claimed to be a veteran of the Civil War. Almost everyone doubted his story at first. He insisted that he was Lt. John N. Boyer who served in the Civil War. He professed to be 104 years old.

The veterans of Reno accepted this story with skepticism, but they soon received an announcement that there was a Lt. John N. Boyer in the Civil War and that this man was probably he.

The sympathy of most Americans went out to this bedraggled old man, who had served his country in Civil War, yet had to go about as a vagabond to get his daily food.

Now that sympathy has turned to indifference if not disgust. Manager Edward F. Reed of the Reno V. A. center has ordered an investigation of the matter.

A closer check by the V. A. revealed that this man was not Boyer but instead, was really Walter Engle Urwiler, age 69, who had a knack for faking heart attacks, and who used some 40 other aliases.

The authorities went to the hospital to confront the old man with this news. But Boyer, who told doctors he was a Pennsylvania Volunteer and had hitchhiked from an old soldiers' home in San Diego, had disappeared after receiving expensive treatment—all free.

It looks like old swindlers never die, they just get treats, treatments, then fade away.

What's Next In Political Scandal

WHAT'S GOING to happen next in the political scandals about our "public servants" in Washington?

It was announced yesterday that Bob Byers, Sr., an Ohio real estate operator and builder, testified at his \$500,000 bankruptcy hearing that Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wis) had refused to pay \$5,500 which the Senator had lost to Byers' son, Bob Byers, Jr.

Of course the Senator denied that he owed the money. Whether he did or not, the smell of "political pollution" fills the air.

Fur coats, subversion, deep freezes, and all sorts of things. What next?

refusing to break ranks, dropped in their tracks—faint caused by the intense heat.

All business establishments were closed in Gladewater. Flags flew at half mast. High state and military officers, aided by representatives of veterans' organizations from at least half a dozen Texas cities, combined to pay their respect.

Foy L. Smith, minister, slowly and pointedly read from the Book of Psalms.

This wasn't an ordinary funeral because M/Sgt. Watkins was no ordinary man. He was the first Texan to win the Congressional Medal of Honor in the Korean War. He was awarded the nation's highest military decoration posthumously for bravery near Yongsan.

Wounded and paralyzed from the waist down, he ordered his men to withdraw as he covered their retreat. M/Sgt. Watkins faced certain death without hesitation. He served his country in the greatest way possible.

He gave his life that we might live a life free from the fears of tyranny.

Life can be enjoyed by all people who are willing to accept it patiently.

But She Was Very Attractive

EVER HEAR of the Armed Forces educational program?

Well, it is finally beginning to produce results.

At a nearby Air Force Base yesterday, a colonel announced that a woman who was "very attractive" had acquired entrance to the base, forming a "very embarrassing situation."

The woman had obtained her pass from a corporal, but the colonel hastily added that "she was a very attractive woman and was posing as a lieutenant. There is a lot of difference between a corporal and a lieutenant . . . and she was very attractive."

The colonel continued, "I kind of admired her spunk . . . to get into officer's candidate school" . . .

But the hilarious thought is how the colonel finally trapped this supposedly vivacious creature. She said that she flew to the base on a military plane.

At this point, the colonel put two and two together, thought, and immediately set the FBI on her trail, to see where she obtained the pass needed for transportation on military aircraft.

This is the point in the Armed Forces educational program: to encourage its students to think. The corporal thought that he should give a pass to a lieutenant, the colonel thought that he should give a pass to a lieutenant, the colonel thought about the needed pass, but the person who was really thinking was the major who flew in the lovely miss when all she did was "smile and ask him for a ride."

Intelligent people try to get the facts on both sides of an issue. Ignoramuses just shout and howl.

The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions "Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

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WHY DO WE ALWAYS GET SUCH DRIVERS ?



MORRIS

Dwells on Texas' Distinctive Claim to Area

Connally Fights for Tidelands

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3—(AP)—When the fight for control of offshore submerged oil lands gets on the Senate floor you can look for Texas' Senator Tom Connally to burst forth oratorically as he hasn't done for years.

In fact, he couldn't wait for tidelands legislation to reach the floor to sound forth on the subject.

In Committee With the measure still tied up in committee on his side of the Capitol, and just before the House went into action, he gave a fine preview of what to expect when that issue comes before the Senate.

It was reminiscent of old times, when the silver-haired Texan led filibusters against anti-lynch law bills. There were only a half dozen colleagues on the floor when he obtained recognition to speak, but that didn't dampen his enthusiasm.

He soon digressed from a prepared text to get into the stride that has earned him acclaim as one of the most eloquent members of the Senate. Although he will be 74 on Aug. 19, and his movements aren't quite so fast as they used to be, his tongue is as sharp as ever.

Looking at the chamber as if daring someone to dispute his contention that the federal government is trying to steal Texas' coastal domain, he voiced regret that Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo) wasn't there to hear him. The Wyoming senator is author of legislation to give the federal government control of the submerged lands.

Interpreting The News

Will McCormick Get Job Of Top Navy Commander?

J. M. ROBERTS, JR., AP Foreign News Analyst THE question now seems to be not whether Britain will get the supreme allied naval command in the Atlantic but whether it will go to Admiral McCormick or to no one at all.

The North Atlantic Pact Organization agreed, a long time ago, that there should be a joint naval command just like General Eisenhower's supreme land command. It was agreed, with full approval by the British admiralty, that the command should go to the commander of the United States Atlantic fleet.

Fechteler Promoted That was Admiral William M. Fechteler, who has now been promoted to chief of naval operations. McCormick is the new commander.

Britain's top officials knew that by getting an American commander they were also getting assurance that the United States would provide him with the strength to do the job, of vital importance to the defense of Britain. But traditional pride of sea power stirred up a political hotbed in Britain, and the business has been rocking along without action.

First reaction to President Truman's promotion of Fechteler was that, besides appointing a man who had not been too much involved in the Navy-Air Force fight, the President was also permitting the reopening of the Atlantic command case.

British Commander Some observers even though Mr. Truman might be paving the way for a British commander. On second thought, it would seem that an American commander is just as important to the British as ever.

But by reopening the matter of the commander the whole matter of whether there should be a supreme command is also reopened.

The late Admiral Sherman, who went to Britain in an effort to smooth things over, is reported to

OPS Issues Puzzling Order As Truman Okehs Controls

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3—(AP)— Just an hour or so before President Truman signed the new price control law this week, the Office of Price Stabilization (OPS) issued an order which may have puzzled some people.

There was nothing really new about that order. OPS simply was putting into effect an old order which it had issued some time ago to manufacturers and then had to suspend.

What follows is a general, but brief, explanation of what happened.

Froze Prices

Last Jan. 26 OPS froze all prices, including manufacturers'. This freeze couldn't continue indefinitely without injustice to some manufacturers whose costs continued to climb and who therefore needed a higher price.

At the same time some manufacturers' prices were too high because, for one reason or another,

Entitled to Increase

If it shows you're entitled to a price increase, go ahead and boost your price, figuring how much you're entitled to according to the formula which we've laid down for just such a situation.

This form must be filed with us by July 2. Then we'll check to see whether you should have an increase or whether you're charging

too much and should have your price rolled back.

Some manufacturers filed their form and got their increase before July 2—and some had their prices rolled back—but some hadn't filed the form or raised a price before that July 2 deadline.

And before it arrived there was a scramble in Congress about passing a new price control law. Until it could make up its mind about such a law, Congress told OPS not to roll back any prices.

So OPS suspended the whole business about filing Form No. 8 by July which means it suspended both actions on rollbacks and price increases for the manufacturers.

Agreed on New Law

Congress finally agreed on a new law and Mr. Truman signed it Tuesday night. Shortly before he did, OPS announced it was putting into effect that old order which it had suspended. But some dates had to be changed.

On Tuesday night it told manufacturers to file Form No. 8 by Aug. 13 and if they think they're entitled to a higher price, they must wait 15 days after filing Form No. 8, before boosting the price. That's to give OPS time to check on them.

If Jones, the widget-maker, files his form on Aug. 13 he must wait until Aug. 28 before raising his price. But his only reason for getting the increase will still be for only these two reasons: higher costs of labor and materials.

More Price Increases

And that brings up something else. Because of the new law, Jones may be able to get still another price increase in a little while.

The new law not only lets manufacturers charge a higher price because of increased costs in labor and materials but will let them include the cost of other things, like sales promotion and advertising.

While OPS has worked out a formula for allowing price increases under the old law, on Form No. 8, it still hasn't worked out a formula for allowing increases under the new law. That will take time.

Is that justice? Is that fairness?

Connally's speech provoked considerable comment, particularly in light of the fact that he is up for reelection next year if he is to stay on in the Senate, where he has served since 1929.

Newspaper Comment

An eastern newspaper correspondent, turning back into the press gallery from the chamber, was overheard making this comment:

"Well, that was ole' Tom's opening campaign speech."

Among the spectators in the galleries was Robert Lee Bobbitt, San Antonio and Laredo attorney, long prominent in Texas politics.

"The old boy's still got some fight in him," Bobbitt observed, and voiced the opinion it would be a real scrap if Connally and any one of two or three other Texans whose names often are mentioned as potential candidates, found themselves foes in the 1952 election campaign.

But, getting back to the subject of tidelands, the Senate debate should prove considerably more lively there than in the House.

The proponents for federal control are relatively stronger in both numbers and influence in the Senate than in the House. Also, unhampered by time limitation on debate as are their colleagues in the other Capitol wing, the senators can talk to their heart's content once they gain the floor.

State Control Bill

Notwithstanding the strength of

the pro-federal ownership faction in the Senate, a state control bill could be expected to pass by a good margin once it reaches a vote in that body.

But, there is this to remember. Most objective observers here still think the chances are very remote that anything at all will come of the whole debate.

President Truman almost certainly will veto any state ownership bill, as he did about four years ago. An effort to override failed then, and recent unofficial counts indicate about the same situation would prevail in the Senate this year.

The best chance, slim though it is, seems to be that if anything is achieved it will be enactment of a measure which would give the states interim, or tentative, control of the lands beneath the marginal seas pending the reaching of a final and permanent solution to the problem either by the courts or Congress.

Majority Vote

That principle was endorsed by a majority vote of the Senate Interior Committee, which approved amendments offered by Senator Long (D-La) to radically alter a resolution introduced by O'Mahoney. The Wyoming senator, as chairman of the committee, proposed that the federal government be given tentative control.

Although the committee by a divided vote approved Long's position the measure was not immediately reported to the Senate floor. Many legislators wanted to wait and see what action the House took.

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