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THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1951 PAGE 2

Seaway Has Chance Of Passage in 1951

Indefatigable as ever, Rep. Clarence E. Kilburn has once again introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to authorize the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power project. It is identical to the one he brought before the 81st Congress on the first day of its sessions two years ago. But—this time chances are brighter than ever for its passage.

The measure has been blown around by congressional big winds since Grover Cleveland's second term. Almost everyone is in favor of the seaway but almost no one votes for it. It just is shuffled around until it gets lost.

In this year of crisis, however, representatives and senators are taking a more serious view of any bill that will increase the security and military potential of the United States. And the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power project will do both.

The congressmen now have in their sights the tremendous iron reserves in Labrador. The Mesabi range at the head of Lake Superior, long our main source of supply, is dwindling to the point where experts can see the end of productivity. We must be prepared to shift to new supplies when the end comes.

And Labrador is the answer. Iron ore from the Canadian backwoods could be brought to the St. Lawrence River, put on shipboard and transported to steel producers. The route is inland through the North American continent and could be protected much more easily than any overseas passage.

On the basis of availability and security the Labrador ore fields are by far the most attractive. The power phase of the project is also of pressing importance. Located near Massena, it would be, according to plans, the second largest single-dam undertaking in the world, exceeded only by Grand Coulee.

It would generate current for distribution throughout New York and New England, except for Maine. The much-discussed plans to locate a huge new steel plant in New London, Conn. or some other New England city merely add to the need for more power in this area.

In addition, the power will be available in an emergency over a much wider area. Cities as distant as Chicago and Washington (did you hear that, you lawmakers—Washington?) would get emergency power.

Although this plan would be in our back yard it is not a local scheme. Its influence will affect directly the whole eastern United States. Its benefits, in peace or war, will filter down to every American.

With all these arguments in its favor it is difficult to see how the Congress can bypass it. The need is urgent. Congress must act.

Tough Year on Whales

Whale hunters will be running into stiffer competition than ever this year. The catch of blue whales is limited by international treaty to 16,000 and each whaling nation tries to get a big share of the blubber.

The United States will send a fleet in search of the mammals for the first time since the war. Norway and Great Britain, traditional leaders in the hunt, will have to guard their laurels well.

It is reported that the Americans mechanized to the last, will carry a helicopter to locate the schools of whales.

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat DEMOCRACY—A Year-round Job. ON JANUARY 7, 1789, GEORGE WASHINGTON WAS CHOSEN PRESIDENT IN THE FIRST NATIONAL ELECTION IN THE U.S. THAT EVENT MARKED THE FORMAL LAUNCHING OF OUR REPUBLIC AND BROUGHT INTO ACTION THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES BY WHICH, OVER 161 YEARS, OUR PEOPLE HAVE BUILT FOR THEMSELVES THE MOST SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SYSTEM THAT MANKIND HAS KNOWN. SO LONG AS OUR PEOPLE RECOGNIZE THAT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENSHIP ARE CONTINUOUS, EMBRACING PARTICIPATION THAT GOES BEYOND MERE VOTING. SO LONG AS OUR GOVERNMENT HOLDS ITSELF CONTINUOUSLY RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS AND DESIRES OF THE PEOPLE—OUR DEMOCRACY WILL CONTINUE TO GROW IN FREEDOM, IN POWER, AND IN OPPORTUNITY.

IN DAYS OF YORE Turning Back the Clock

1 Year Ago This Week

January 12, 1950 Increasing costs of government to the Town of Potsdam lowered the town's balance during 1949, according to a year-end report released today by Supervisor Elmer J. Murphy. The total balance was \$44,308.04 compared with \$45,007.43 at the end of 1948.

Norwood—The New York State Supreme Court awarded \$1000 yesterday to John Francis, Ashley St., because a mouse in the Coca-Cola he bought at McLaughlin's service station last February made him sick.

Mrs. Milo Bacon entertained Saturday evening with two tables of 500 at her home. Among those present were Mrs. Floyd Olmstead, Mrs. Winnie Peryer, Mrs. Edward McCarthy, Mrs. Nellie Young, Mrs. C. O. DeLongy, Mrs. Etta Spotswood and Mrs. Bessie Erwin.

Mrs. Gertrude Havington is spending the winter with Mrs. Lena Lalpoint, Walnut St.

10 Years Ago This Week

January 8, 1941 The first contingent of eleven young men, called to colors from the 11-town area of draft board 412 for a year's military training, left here Monday morning on the 7:15 train for Syracuse. They were inducted into the army at the Hotel Upton and later sent to Camp Yates, L. I.

Clarence E. Premo was in Syracuse Monday.

Mrs. Minnie L. Huck, chief librarian, has returned after visiting her son, Carson, in South Bend, Ind., who is a member of the faculty at Notre Dame university.

At a special meeting of Township club No. 1, held in the club rooms, the following officers were elected and installed: Ogden LaClair, president; Mrs. Mattie Busaw, first vice pres.; Miss Ella Sullivan, second vice pres.; L. W. Barnes, secretary and treasurer.

25 Years Ago This Week

January 13, 1926 There will be a little ceremony at the Potsdam Club this evening, attended by local people connected with the St. Lawrence Utilities, Inc. at which a medal will be presented by H. P. Garrett, chief operator of the company's power plants in recognition of his services in rescuing Horace Snyder, who was so badly injured at the Hanawa station of the company a year ago. A medal given by Samuel Insull for acts of this nature will be given Mr. Garrett, the presentation being made by F. A. Stoughton, president of the Utilities.

Passage of an important resolution looking to disposition of the much discussed Muscle Shoals questioned was secured by Congressman Bertrand H. Snell in the house of representatives within one hour.

A daughter was born to Mr. Mrs. James Regan on Wednesday, January 6th.

Miss Grace R. Knowles who has been spending several weeks at Clifton Springs and with relatives in the west has returned home.

50 Years Ago This Week

January 9, 1901 The twentieth century was welcomed by the Odd Fellows in a manner which will live long in the memories of the members. New Year's night was selected as the time for installing the newly elected officers and it was decided to make the occasion one of festivity and jubilation. District Deputy A. D. Miller, of Winthrop, was present and duly installed the officers and after the ceremonies were concluded the members were treated to a splendid banquet. An orchestra was in attendance and played throughout the evening and after the banquet the boys indulged in a stag dance, the shake down being the favorite. Cards were found in vogue, and the first day of the year was more than used up before the members dispersed.

Mr. Judd Benson of Massena came up to spend the holidays with his wife, who is visiting



Broadway and Main Street

Riding the Ghost Turns Cabbie Into a Gentleman and a Scholar

By BILLY ROSE

The other midnight, after 15 hours of making like Joe Executive, I felt I could use a little fresh air, and so I stepped into a cab and asked the hackie to drive me around Central Park.



"How's business?" I small talked. "Pretty fair," said the cabbie "but people are funny—soon as us hackies start making an extra buck they act like we was profiteering or something. They forget all those years when we had to ride the ghost in order to keep our jobs."

"Ride the what?" "The ghost," said the hackie. "That's what we used to call it when we threw the flag down and let the clock run without a customer inside. During the tough times there were fleet owners who would fire a guy if he didn't bring in a certain amount of business, so we used to run it up on the meter and pay it out of our own pockets. And we had to watch ourselves when riding the ghost or an inspector might nab us. The way I used to do it was to cruise around Central Park until I clocked enough to satisfy the boss—and do you know something? The biggest tip I ever got was on one of those nights when the ride was on me."

"Unconfuse me," I said. "Well, it was like this," said the hackie. "About a month after the stock market crash in '29, I'm cruising around Wall Street one afternoon, figuring that if a broker threw himself out the window I might get a chance to rush him to the hospital. But Wall Street's like a graveyard that day, and so finally I get disgusted and go into

her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Parr, on Chestnut Street. Soon after arriving there, he was taken ill, developing symptoms of fever, and has been quite sick and unable to return to his work.

75 Years Ago This Week

January 13, 1876 Weather—Until yesterday, the weather the past week has been warm and spring like. Last Friday it was warm, so that the doors and windows were freely thrown open. Monday of this week we observed farmers plowing, no frost, apparently a sudden change greeted us. It was very cold and the ground is again frozen up.

a speak-easy for a couple of shots. "When I climb back in my cab a few hours later, I'm feeling no pain, and so I decide I might as well take the ghost for his usual joyride. And that night, Central Park is really something to see—you know, full of fog and icicles like a picture in a kid's fairy book.

"After making the circuit a couple of times, I'm about ready to call it a night when suddenly I get a feeling, I'm being watched. And so I turn around, and sitting in the back is a little old geezer wearing one of those high collars and what they call a homberger hat. Naturally, this gives me quite a jolt, but when a guy is potted he's liable to get some pretty funny ideas, and so I figure out that this is the ghost I been riding around night after night. Brave-like, I crank open the window between us and start to talk to him.

"How you enjoying the ride?" I says. "I'm enjoying it fine," says the ghost. "To St. Patrick's Cathedral. And close the window—it's getting cold."

"This strikes me as kind of a peculiar remark for a ghost, but I'd like to try, and when we get to St. Patrick's the ghost gets out and I'm surprised I can't see through him like you're supposed to with ghosts. "I'll never forget you for what you did," he says, "and especially the way you did it—pretending not to hear what I told you and driving me through the park on this beautiful night so I could see there was something in the world besides my own miserable problems."

"For the first time I begin to suspicion that maybe this ghost ain't no ghost after all, so I says to him, "When's you get in my cab?"

"You know, darned well I was waiting in the back when you came out of the bar," he says.

"That explains it," I says. I didn't see you because it was dark and I was kind of loaded, and I didn't hear you because the window between us was closed."

"You're a gentleman and a scholar," says the little old geezer. Saying which he fishes out a hundred-dollar bill and hands it to me.

"He starts to go away but I stop him. "Just for the record," I says, "when'd you ask me to take you first?" "As if you didn't know," he says. "The middle of the Brooklyn Bridge."



Washington, D. C. is much the same as last year when we attended a Grange conference. It is always interesting to us to visit our national headquarters and begin the new year with the enthusiasm and new ideas which we can always learn there. This year there are state masters, secretaries, lecturers, home economics and youth chairmen from 12 states, and as we write this each group is meeting separately to discuss their particular problems and exchange ideas.

A morning meeting brought everyone together, each state delegation was introduced and National Master Herschel Newson made an address of welcome. In the morning the sessions will continue with addresses on youth, community service, public relations, membership and Grange growth and achievement.

Attending from New York state, besides ourself, is State Master Henry Sherwood, Lecturer Florence Pickett, juvenile superintendent Ruth Thew, youth chairman Elton Borden, service and hospitality chairman Edith Thomsen and Harry Graham.

Guy Haviland of Middleburgh, who has just been named to the Youth Advisory Committee of the National Grange, is also here in his official capacity. Paul Taber, who is acting as assistant to the national master, from Ithaca, considers himself a member of our delegation.

One happening of interest to us was a broadcast in which we sat on invitation of Fred Bailey, Washington Farm Reporter. Actually it was a recording which will be released over NBC network at a later date. Called America United, representatives of labor, industry and agriculture hold a round table discussion each week on the air to recognize mutual problems in these critical days.

Rural teenager program will be continued in 1951, we have just learned. This is a farm organization - sponsored plan whereby some 100 German boys and girls spend a year on an American farm, working, attending school and taking part in Grange and community activities with the family which is their host. We can think of no finer way of developing the finest of international relations. If anyone wishes to participate, applications should be made to State Master Henry Sherwood at Pine Plains.

See More Production as Answer To National Security, Inflation

This is the third and last of a series based on personal interviews in Washington with the nation's top military, diplomatic and political leaders. The purpose was to obtain an on-the-spot view of efforts to meet the world crisis.

Washington has one answer for both national security and inflation. It is production and more production.

The record shows that in addition to arming and equipping a peak of 14 million men in World War 2, we produced for lend-lease the equivalent of enough to arm and equip 2000 infantry divisions.

The President has said that within a few months we will have 3 1/2 millions under arms. That means, within less than a year after the outbreak of the Korean war, we will have done what it took more than two years to do in World War 2.

This was the one heartening fact found by editors of Gannett newspapers on their visit to Washington this week to get a closer look at what government is doing in our present perils.

But over against this must be set another fact. During the five years since the war, the Soviet Union has assigned 40 per cent of its national productive capacity to war needs. Can we catch up in time? Nobody can answer that because no one outside the Kremlin knows how much time we have.

In Washington the saying is that the confusion is better organized this time. Any truth in this centers around the rugged figure of Charles E. Wilson, former president of General Electric, who recently took over as czar of economic mobilization.

Wilson's powers are greater than any American outside the President has ever held. The Gannett editors were told on high authority that Mr. Truman has delegated to Wilson all the powers over the economy which the President holds either by virtue of his office or by specific law.

Wilson not only knows industry but he knows the infighting that goes on in Washington even in wartime. This tough old boy can take care of himself and there is great satisfaction for everyone in that fact.

Meanwhile, the great issues that will determine the kind of economy Wilson will have to mobilize are shaping up. Among them are:

The Budget—The official aim is still pay-as-you-go by higher taxation and by cutting non-defense spending. This, with production, is the basic hope for avoiding inflation. Yet the impression of this observer is that much more brains and planning and drive must be evidenced before the hopes are realized.

Practically everybody swears loyalty to the objective of real cuts in non-defense spending. But all inquiries about how these cuts will be made are met with references to the items which comprise the bulk of non-defense spending—interest on the debt, veterans benefits, etc.

This is the same attitude of hopelessness and helplessness that has fobbed off attempts at budget cutting through all these years in which spending has mounted so terrifically. A more real conviction that something can be done about non-defense spending must exist before brave talk means much.

Taxation—You will pay sharply higher taxes, designed to drain off from consumers the extra buying power generated by defense spending. One scheme being talked on Capitol Hill is on "excess earnings tax." This companion piece to the "excess profits tax" would declare that your earnings during some postwar base period were your normal earnings, and anything you earn above that now is a windfall that should be taxed at higher than normal rates.

Controls—Two changes have occurred in official attitudes toward direct controls since 1948. Despite the moonbeam chasing by stabilizing agencies during the last week, the knowledge is deep and widespread—as it was not in 1948—that unless the causes of inflation are cured in the budget, direct controls will not succeed. The other is that firmer wage controls that will be effective. If direct controls are resorted to this time, they will take some other form than a new OPA.

Materials—The National Production Authority has done a good job in increasing the quantities of basic materials available for defense. But there is a limit to what it can accomplish by merely cutting back civilian consumption. It needs help on such things as the copper tariff.

The United States imports 40 per cent of its copper and yet there is a senseless tariff on foreign copper. The administration has lagged in cracking the whip over Congress—including Democratic senators from the mountain states—to eliminate this tariff.

Universal Military Training—It is expected to pass at the coming session of Congress, probably with a delayed action clause. The Defense Department right now wants to devote its whole energy to quick expansion of the fighting services. But it wants Universal Military Training as a settled part of the defense establishment, to be activated when facilities and manpower can be spared to make it tick.

Ciel Adair.

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