

POLITICO-LEGAL FIGHT STRIKES AT CONGRESS

House Cleaning Must Begin at Home: Move May Affect Farley.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Congress must outlaw its own political legalists if it aims legislation at national committeemen who practice law and politics in the capital, it appeared today after three days' hot discussion of the subject.

Since President Roosevelt unexpectedly slammed the White House door in the faces of layer national committeemen there have been several interesting developments.

1. Postmaster-General James A. Farley is secure in his Democratic national committee chairmanship, but probably will resign within a year if a qualified successor can be found.

Vandenbergh Introduces Bill

2. Senator Arthur R. Vandenberg (Rep., Mich.) introduced a bill to forbid national committeemen from the practice of law before government departments and to separate federal office from party of office so far as possible—the latter provision might hit Mr. Farley.

3. Dusty on the shelves of the senate was discovered a bill by Senator William E. Borah (Rep., Idaho), which would forbid congressmen and senators to appear in trial courts in many instances.

Mr. Vandenberg's bill is aimed as much at lobbying as at the more formal practice of lawyers before government departments.

It would forbid national committeemen from attempting to influence directly or indirectly the action of any department or other agency of government. Committeemen of both parties would be affected.

Political Rewards Unquestioned

In an authoritative discussion of the subject here it was rather definitely indicated that the Democratic attitude would be that Mr. Vandenberg pressed his bill. If the line between desirable and undesirable practices is to be drawn by legislation rather than by ethics and morals, there are those who feel that the legislation should embrace all federal employees.

Many congressmen are conceded to be receiving rewards for political influence in the board and proper sense of the term. That is, they receive political reward—perhaps re-election—for performing favors. None here questions the legitimacy of political reward of that kind.

'ROOSEVELT OR RUIN,' IS WARNING OF FATHER COUGHLIN



"Follow through with the President," demanded Father Charles E. Coughlin, famed Detroit "radio priest," when, as shown at right, he testified in Washington at the house coinage committee's monetary hearing, declaring "It's Roosevelt or ruin." With the priest is Representative A. L. Somers, chairman of the house committee.

After You, Alphonse

Duel Challenges Ring in French Chamber of Deputies as Result of Banking Scandal.

By United Press

PARIS, Jan. 20.—If the personal rows and "insults" arising out of the Stavisky banking scandal continue in the chamber of deputies, the lovely Bois de Boulogne will be full of dueling Frenchmen.

Parliament, already at a fever pitch of excitement over the impending duel, with swords or pistols, of Education Minister Anatole de Monzie and Deputy Philippe Henriot, was whipped to the height of frenzy today when Deputies Joseph La Grosilliere and Desire Ferry had a free-for-all fight, followed by a challenge.

Scarcely had it been announced that a "jury of honor," considering the Le Monzie-Henriot imbroglio, had decided to seek an amicable settlement of this row, when La Grosilliere and Ferry started to do battle.

Ferry responded with howled insults, and named as his seconds Deputies Marcel and Joseph Laniel, instructing them to fix the day and place of the duel.

Meanwhile, the chamber and its adjacent corridors were filled with shouting, quarreling deputies, shouting the wildest of charges.

But a financial reward for a political favor is distinctly something else.

The Borah bill would assess a \$10,000 fine against any congressman who mixed his federal responsibilities with his legal practice. Existing law forbids congressmen from practicing before the departments, but they may accept cases in courts.

TWO HELD AFTER CRASH

Driver and Occupant of Car Were Drunk, Police Charge.

Two men were arrested yesterday afternoon following an automobile crash in the 1100 block West Morris street. Both were cut and bruised in the accident.

The driver, John W. Bender, R. R. 6, Box 414-G, was charged with reckless driving and driving while under the influence of liquor. Burt Cole, 136 South Arlington avenue, was charged with intoxication. Their car struck the rear of a car driven by Walter L. Biddlecombe, 625 Livingston avenue.

FORMER POSTAL CHIEF RETURNS MISSING FILES

Air Mail Letters Reported Burned Are Given to James Farley.

By United Press

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Mysteriously missing official records of the postoffice department, once thought burned, were available to senate ocean and air mail contract investigators today after their sudden return by former Postmaster-General Walter F. Brown.

Mr. Brown, political leader of the Hoover administration, personally delivered the two fat files to the office of Postmaster General James Farley late yesterday and left them with the implication that they had been placed in his baggage by "character assassins."

None was present to describe the meeting of the two political chieftains, victor and vanquished, which official Washington regarded with interest because the senate inquiry into the awarding of mail contract subsidies is widely regarded as an inquiry into the Hoover administration by Democratic leaders.

Burned Letters "Valueless"

Disappearance of the papers was described recently at a tense hearing before the senate committee. Employees of the postoffice department told how on the eve of the Democratic regime, they had been instructed to burn bags full of papers taken from Mr. Brown's files.

The papers which were destroyed, Mr. Brown explained in a letter to Mr. Farley accompanying the files, were only those having "no permanent interest, or value." The work was supervised by employees in his office, Mr. Brown said, under "explicit instructions" not to disturb any official papers.

Senator Hugo L. Black (Dem., Ala.), indicated that he regarded the return of the papers as unimportant and that he still regarded significantly the fact that many papers from the former postmaster-general's files had been destroyed.

Nevertheless, he instructed his investigators to search the returned records for a letter allegedly sent to Mr. Brown by William B. Robertson in which he claimed to have offered to carry out an air mail contract at 40 cents a mile. The successful bidder received almost double this amount.

"Character Assassination"

Discarding the theory that the papers were placed with his belongings by accident or purposely by

CRIPPLED CHILDREN THRILLED WITH CAKE



ESTIMATE DEAD AT 20,000 IN INDIAN QUAKE

Hundreds of Bodies Swell Ganges to Float Down to Sea.

By United Press
CALCUTTA, Jan. 20.—Reports reaching Calcutta today from the devastated state of Bengal, indicate that the recent earthquake may have caused one of the most stupendous human tragedies of modern times, with perhaps 20,000 persons dead in the ruined cities.

Refugees reported an estimated toll on Monghyr of between 6,000 and 8,000. An unofficial estimate in the province of Behar showed 15,000 dead. Damage, according to officials, will amount to at least \$37,500,000.

For three successive days and nights bodies of the dead have been thrown into the river Ganges, to float down to the sea in grottoes hundreds.

As the floods caused by the temblor receded, leaving behind them the wreckage of mud buildings, thousands of homes were found to have been sunk five feet below the surface of the earth, entombing their occupants.

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