Moral of Election Hearings: State Laws Need Going-Over

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ory. The hearing failed to unearth any sensational charges that hadn't already been flung at each other by Republicans and Democrats. The formal quiz itself was an anti-climax.

There were few exciting moments.

Show Over?

Although it appeared that the big top had been dismantled, there was no certainty that the show was completely over.

U. S. District Attorney Howard Caughran said he would await conclusions of the senate campaign expenditures committee before deciding whether any formal prosecution is warranted.

He still has in his possession scores of complaints from persons charging that they were prevented from voting because their names were not on official registration lists.

Emmert Is Candid

One of the highlights of the senate hearing came when a politician displayed rare candor by admitting that he actually had played politics.

This was State Atty. Gen. James Emmert, who conceded that his telegraphic instructions to county election boards on Nov. 6 were "purely political — just like Governor Schricker's."

Mr. Emmert offered a scorching reply to Senator Tom Stewart's previous reference to him as "an officious ass."

Core of Examination

With an icy glare, Mr. Emmert, on the witness stand, told Senator Stewart that he wouldn't stand by and permit either state or federal officials to mistreat Hoosiers.

Much of the examination conducted by Senators Stewart (D. Tenn.) and Joseph Ball (R. Minn.) revolved around whether challenged voters should have been allowed to cast ballots by submitting affidavits.

Governor Schricker and the Democratic-controlled state election board contended that this was permissible. Mr. Emmert said no. He said voters should be made to obtain certificates of error from county clerks.

Aims at "Bullseye"

"When I get in a political fight, I generally aim for the bullseye," the attorney general told the senatorial sub-committee. "I got a late start in this one, but I finished fast."

For 30 minutes he and Senator Stewart dualled verbally over the Indiana election laws. Mr. Emmert said his telegrams to each of the 92 counties telling authorities to "ignore" the election board's approval of affidavit voting was "an unofficial opinion."

"How in the world can a little feller out in the sticks tell when a telegram with your name signed to it is official or unofficial," shot back Senator Stewart.

The Tennessee solon also clashed with Edwin Steers, Republican member of the Democratic-controlled state election board. When Mr. Steers declared he thought Senator Stewart was "confused," the senator reddened with indignation.

"Rabbit Tracks"

"Well, let's follow your little rabbit tracks for a while, and we'll see who's confused," he blurted.

Eleventh District G. O. P. Chairman James L. Bradford also stepped out of a tight spot with the greatest of ease.

Mr. Bradford was asked what he meant by pre-election statement that "the Republicans won the election when we put Carroll Kramer and George Johnson in charge of the election machinery."

Mr. Kramer is Republican fourth ward chairman and Mr. Johnson secretary of the Republican county committee.

"I simply meant that we would have an honest election, and that, consequently the Republicans would win," countered Mr. Bradford. "The Democrats have been stealing elections around here for years."

The "Brushoff"

One feature of the senate election investigation was given the "brushoff" at the public hearing. This was the much-publicized probe of Senator-elect Homer Capehart's campaign expenses. Mr. Capehart wasn't mentioned, even indirectly.

Senators Stewart and Ball returned to Washington yesterday. Harold Buckles, chief of the senate investigative staff, will remain in Indianapolis for a few days.

The huge stack of transcribed testimony and certified statements accumulated during the investigation will be examined by the senate campaign expenditures committee to determine whether a full committee hearing is advisable.

It appeared doubtful whether a decision on this matter would be announced soon. By resolution, the current campaign expenditures committee's tenure has been extended for two months, Mr. Buckles said today.

Senator Stewart yesterday requested Marion county attorneys representing involved parties to submit their ideas on "affidavit voting" and conflicting election laws.

78TH CONGRESS CALLS IT A DAY

Work Not Quite Completed, Vacation-Struck Senate Adjourns.

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over the Central valley in California, the $500,000,000 post-war rivers and harbors improvement program.

5-Week Record

Previously, in the five weeks since returning from its election recess, the congress had:

ONE—Approved after lengthy partisan debate the nominations of Lt. Col. Edward Heller of California and former Gov. Robert A. Hurley of Connecticut as members of the surplus war property disposal board.

TWO—Extended the second war powers act to Dec. 31, 1945.

THREE—Frozen the social security payroll tax at 1 per cent for another year.

FOUR—Passed a $500,000,000 deficiency appropriation bill.

FIVE—Authorized for the post-war period a $1,000,000,000 flood control program and a $1,500,000,000 highway program.

The flood control and highway program measures carried no actual appropriation of funds for the work. That is planned later. Most of the $182,237,697,612 appropriated by the 78th congress was for outright prosecution of the war.

75 Billion For Army

The army received approximately $75,000,000,000 and the navy about $58,000,000,000. Additional billions went to emergency war agencies and to war functions of the regular government departments.

As appropriations mounted, so did taxes. The 78th congress put most of the nation's taxpayers on a pay-as-you-go basis. In doing so, it raised government income an estimated $3,000,000,000.

It subsequently passed a tax bill simplification measure which netted another $2,300,000,000.

The simplification bill, however, drew the congress into one of the bitterest of its many fights with President Roosevelt.

The President had asked for a $10,000,000,000 tax increase and vetoed the bill congress sent him.

Congress promptly overrode the veto.

The tone of the veto message prompted Barkley to resign the post of senate majority leader. His senate colleagues immediately re-elected him unanimously.

Snubs Roosevelt

Coincident with that fight congress was snubbing Mr. Roosevelt's request for national service legislation. It raised a storm of protest against the roll-back subsidies of the price stabilization program. The President defeated, with a veto, an attempt to outlaw those subsidies.

Twice the congress stepped into the field of labor policy. During the 1943 coal strike it passed the Smith-Connally anti-strike law over a presidential veto.

Government seizure of Montgomery, Ward and Co. properties evoked an uproar.

Back Peace by Force

Battlefront successes evoked talk of future peace plans and both houses of congress went on record favoring U. S. participation in a new world security organization, using force if necessary to prevent future aggression.

Meanwhile, congress gave overwhelming indorsement to continuation of the lend-lease program.

The war program itself was under constant scrutiny, particularly by the senate's special war investigating committee whose work helped boost Chairman Harry S. Truman (D. Mo.) to the vice presidency.

Just before adjournment, congress voted to investigate itself with a view toward reorganization. It set up a bi-partisan senate-house committee to study proposals for modernizing and streamlining congressional machinery.

JAP RESISTANCE ON LEYTE FADING FAST

(Continued From Page One)

of Manila, American and Australian combat engineers were rushing airfields to completion.

No ground opposition yet had developed on Mindoro. Thirteen Japanese planes which ventured over the area were shot down Sunday and Monday.

From Adm. Chester W. Nimitz came word that another 14 Japanese ships had been added to the list of those sunk in the first three days and nights of carrier-based attacks on Luzon, site of Manila.

Nimitz' communique covered attacks Thursday, Friday and Saturday. A Pearl Harbor dispatch yesterday described the offensive as "continuing."

The revised total showed 41 ships sunk, all of them merchant ships with the exception of a minelayer, and 61 damaged, including four destroyers, two destroyer escorts and a coastal defense vessel.

The number of Japanese planes destroyed in the three-day assault remained at 269 and those damaged at 192. American losses were revised upward from 20 to 27 aircraft.

RABBIS ASK TRIALS FOR WAR CRIMINALS

CHICAGO, Dec. 20 (U. P.).—The commission for peace and justice of the central conference of American rabbis yesterday recommended an "immediate and speedy" trial of the Germans "responsible for crimes against civilian populations."

In a statement released by Rabbi F. M. Isserman, chairman, the commission asked the allies in making the peace to be "guided by justice rather than vengeance," but to make "such spiritual and physical changes" in Germany as would prevent her from "building up a military machine to threaten the peace of the rest of the world."

Eleanor Sleeth, Rushville, Dead

Times Special

RUSHVILLE, Ind., Dec. 20.—Miss Eleanor Sleeth, sister of Miss Mary Sleeth, manager of the farm interests of the late Wendell L. Willkie, died here last night. She was 72.

A lifelong resident of Rushville, Miss Sleeth helped her sister keep the books on the Willkie interests. She was a member of the United Presbyterian church and held offices in the Sunday school of the church for many years. She also was church organist for some time.

Miss Sleeth was the first woman in Rush county to be elected to public office when she assumed the duties of recorder more than 20 years ago. She was treasurer of the Rush county Red Cross until a year ago when she resigned because of ill health.

Funeral services will be held in Rushville.

OFFICIAL WEATHER

U. S. Weather Bureau

(All Data in Central War Time)
—Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1944—

Sunrise ..... 8:03 | Sunset 5:22

Precipitation 24 hrs. end. 7:30 a. m., trace
Total precipitation since Jan. 1 ..... 32.95
Deficiency since Jan. 1 ..... 5.89

The following table shows the temperatures yesterday:

	High	Low
Atlanta	44	24
Boston	19	11
Chicago	25	18
Cincinnati	27	7
Cleveland	19	16
Denver	57	33
Evansville	31	21
Ft. Wayne	21	15
Indianapolis (city)	25	21
Kansas City, Mo.	38	33
Miami, Fla.	74	50
Minneapolis-St. Paul	39	22
New Orleans	54	40
New York	23	26
Oklahoma City	63	41
Omaha, Neb.	32	27
Pittsburgh	30	13
San Antonio, Tex.	64	29
St. Louis	36	27
Washington, D. C.	31	21

'Messiah' to Be Given Tonight

William Hain

Maria Koussevitzky

HANDEL'S "MESSIAH"—well-received upon its first presentation by the Indianapolis Symphony orchestra here last Christmas—will be given at 8 o'clock tonight at Cadle tabernacle.

For this year's program, Maria Koussevitzky, soprano, William Hain, tenor, Edna Merritt, contralto, and John MacDonald, baritone, will be the soloists with the orchestra under the baton of Fabien Sevitzky.

A chorus of approximately 300 voices will support the soloists. They will include the Indianapolis Symphonic choir, the Indianapolis Maennerchor of the Athenaeum Turners and the choral section of the Indianapolis Matinee Musicale.

Doors at the tabernacle will open at 7 p. m. Tickets are priced at 50 cents and $1; including tax.

TOKYO ADMITS B-29 RAID STARTED FIRES

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13. The first night bombardment of the capital was on Nov. 29.

Berlin-relayed Tokyo reports also said that of about 40 Superfortresses which attacked Omura yesterday, three were damaged.

The Japanese complained that bad weather impeded their defenses of Omura. They claimed that the damage was on a small scale.

A United Press dispatch from a Superfortress base in China said a "medium" force of Superforts had bombed Omura by means of precision instruments. They dropped their explosives through an overcast which obscured the results.

The U. S. war department permitted disclosure that the system of giant bases used by the Superfortresses in Western China were centered around Chengtu, capital of Szechwan province. The bases were built with the aid of 400,000 Chinese coolies.

Allies Slightly Ease News Blackout on Nazi Offensive

(Continued From Page One)

erations was being withheld to prevent the enemy from learning the whereabouts of his forward elements. As a former combat commander, he said, he sometimes had not known of the movement of his own units for 24 hours.

"For 24 hours?" echoed the correspondents, incredulously.

George Lyons, OWI representative at S. H. A. E. F., backed up the correspondents.

"May I say that S. H. A. E. F.'s policy is stupid," he said. "That's no reflection on you, sir. But everybody across hell and 40 acres knows what's going on. The American people are entitled to know what is going on."

Newsweek Man Protests

"I don't believe that security covers news of what happened last Sunday," added Drew Middleton of the New York Times. "Everybody knows the Germans are good soldiers and they certainly know what happened then."

"You complain about complacency on the home front, but when there is bad news you won't release it," said Joe Evans of Newsweek.

A British correspondent asked:

"Why should the American and British peoples have to depend on the German radio for news of what is happening?"

Allen said the decision to initiate and continue the news blackout was not of his or his staff's doing. It was a step taken by the 1st army and the 12th army group headquarters, he declared, with the full support of G-2 (the intelligence division) at S. H. A. E. F.

The correspondents acknowledged that Allen had endeavored in their behalf to have the restrictions lifted, but without success. Information also has been released direct from the 1st army front that still cannot be sent from S. H. A. E. F.

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3. Leather cigarette box, 15.00 Others 5.00 to 15.00
4. Genuine alligator tobacco pouch, 12.25. Other pouches, 1.00 to 12.25
5. Sportsman talc and shaving bowl set. 2.50* Other men's toiletries, 90c* to 10.00*
6. Wooden pipe rack, 2.75. Others, 1.00 to 15.00*
7. Silver dollar money clip, 7.00, tax included. Other money clips, 3.50 up.*
8. Cigarette box of imported Vermillion Blaze wood. Decorated with a game fish design on top. 10.00.
9. Buxton stitchless pigskin billfold, 7.50.* Other billfolds, 3.00 to 20.00.*
10. Lucite cigarette humidor dispenser. Has a rotating barrel which will contain thirty cigarettes, 5.00.
11. Leather backed clothes brush, 2.98 Other brushes 1.00 to 2.98.
12. Leather cigarette case, 7.50. Others 1.00 to 7.50.
13. Genuine mule cordovan leather belt, 5.00. Other belts, 1.00 to 10.00

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