

State Politics

GOP 'Co-operation' Finds Democratic Tongues In Cheek

By ROBERT BLOEM

WHAT STARTED out to be a very co-operative attitude by Republicans as Democrats prepare to take over the statehouse has developed into what may be a fast breaking curve.

Democrats have their fingers crossed in the case of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. There the retiring Republican administrator, Secretary of State Thomas E. Bath, suggested the Democrats might get into a lot of hot water unless they kept some Republican with department know-how on the payroll for a while.

Because the department is an intricate one, and because Democrats have taken little trouble to learn the ropes to date, the idea sounded like a dandy. Some of the Democrats still think it is, and an agreement has been signed for six months with the assistant director, a Republican.

WHAT CAST the shadow of doubt over the move was that other Republicans immediately reacted unfavorably. Many partisan politicians take a dark view of members of their own party who are friendly with the opposition party, even when the opposition is in power.

So Republicans started looking for the gimmick. They've got factional troubles. It looked to them like somebody in one faction might be getting into a position of advantage over the other faction by keeping a hand on the governmental reins for a while.

Democrats wouldn't particularly care about that

part, of course. In fact, GOP factional feuding delights them no end.

But the suspicious Republicans also cast some doubt on the ability of the GOP assistant Director, Framen P. Gruesbeck of Columbia City (Gov. Gates' home town), to hold other Republicans on the job until they can be replaced in an orderly fashion.

DEMOCRATS ARE still trying to get their patronage set up and the whole idea of retaining Mr. Gruesbeck is to keep the personnel of the department from falling apart in the meantime.

The department's busiest time is coming up. The new department heads need all the help they can get pardons notwithstanding.

But if the word goes out that Mr. Gruesbeck is being used by GOP factional leaders in the factional battling, many Republicans who hope for a future in their own party may decide to get out from under and quit their jobs in the department.

If that happens, it will be no fault of Mr. Gruesbeck's, because he's not a big-shot politician. But it will leave him and the Democrats both in an awkward spot, thanks to GOP "co-operation."

THERE ALSO has been some talk of co-operation from the Republican-controlled Senate in the coming legislative session. A keyhole listener almost upset the apple cart on that one some time back. He learned and revealed that GOP state senators were talking privately about beating the Democrats to the post with their own platform bills to "grab the credit."

Later it developed that certain Republican lobbyists, identified in the party factionalism, also took a dark view of co-operation. It seems they differ somewhat with GOP Senate leadership on which Republicans should head certain Senate committees and serve as minority members on certain house committees.

Should these individuals gum up the so-called Senate co-operation, it might result in a large piece of time-wasting wrangling over legislative organization. This is what the Democrats hoped to avoid by accepting the GOP offer of co-operation on certain matters.

SOME REPUBLICANS have been urging Atty. Gen. Cleon Foust, a Republican, to make a court fight over the legality of his Democratic successor's election. Many attorneys believe Democrat J. Emmett McManaman cannot take the office legally because he ran for it while holding another judicial office—Magistrate in Speedway City.

The constitution says you can't do that—at least if you consider magistrate a judicial office. Anyway, the attorney general is showing no inclination to make a mess out of the situation. A very co-operative attitude, one way of looking at it.

Another way of looking at it is that if there's anything to the contention that Mr. McManaman is ineligible, then there will be the devil to pay if someone challenges him later. It could tie up the office of attorney general in 10,000 knots, and that's a key office in anybody's administration.



Sucker Pitch?

Our Fair City—

Bingo and Roulette Going Full Blast As Joints Seek to Lure Customers**Officials Mark Time Pending Change In Sheriff's Office, State Posts**

BINGO HAS come into its own again in Marion County. So has other gambling.

Three bingo games are going full blast. Two gambling casinos are operating wide open, one serving free steaks to customers. Same crowd of gamblers. A third joint is opening.

Crash of slot machines being broken up has masked the softer hum of roulette wheels. One politician "picked up" \$500 in one joint, dropped it in another.

Struggle on for Sheriff's Office

OFFICIALS ARE marking time. Sheriff is retiring. State police are waiting for "developments" in reorganization of force under new regime. City cops are busy with epidemic of powders, molesters.

Meantime, terrific clandestine struggle for control of sheriff's office is under way. Two factions, financed by gamblers, are fighting for an "in." Each is working for position to run the other out of the county.

Another development in sub-world of chance is a slump in pool tickets. Operators believe the slump is seasonal—Christmas buying. Some say, though, suckers are running short of cash.

They point to increase in pawnshop, petty loan business to support theory.

E. 38th Called Traffic Bottleneck

MOTORISTS who cross town via E. 38th St. accuse the city of bad traffic management between Central Ave. and Fall Creek.

Double parking on both sides of College Ave. is one complaint.

England
Dr. James Rognvald Learmonth, 53-year-old former Mayo Clinic surgeon, will be called in if it is decided to operate on King George's arteries, palace sources said today.

Dr. Learmonth is an expert on the surgery of blood vessels. He has been professor of surgery at the University of Edinburgh since 1939. He was at Mayo from 1928-32.

Although the King's illness was said to be serious, informed quarters did not believe amputation of the leg would be considered necessary now.

Greece

The United Nations General Assembly formally indicted Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia last night for aiding Greek guerrillas. The assembly vote was 47 to 0.

By the same vote, the assembly rejected a Russian resolution calling for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Greece and ending the life of the United Nations' special committee on the Balkans.

The resolution indicting

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Yugoslavia

The Yugoslav Communist organ

Borba

today attacked Bulgarian

Communist leaders for "casting eyes" on Yugoslav Macedonia and Albanian Communist leaders for ignoring economic commitments to this country.

Renewing the sharp struggle

with the Cominform, Borba

of two unsigned editorials that Bulgarian and Albanian leaders

are "trampling" on treaties of

co-operation, friendship and

mutual assistance they had signed

with Yugoslavia.

Greek Foes Indicted

PARIS, Nov. 27 (UPI)—The

United Nations General Assembly

formally indicted Albania, Bul

garia and Yugoslavia tonight for

aiding Greek guerrillas.

Third Bottleneck

This time, the event is the Sonja Henie Ice Show. A half dozen

special policemen attempt to

keep traffic moving into the

Fairgrounds. To do it, they halt

east and west bound traffic

tilt it backs up for blocks.

Fourth Bottleneck

The Chicago-bound Monon Railroad

passenger train. As it loads at

Boulevard Station, rear cars

jut out into 38th St. This cre

ates the biggest jam of all.

City on Air Map

CIVIL AERONAUTICS

show

at Weir Cook Airport is not

quarters, but laying ground

wor for future. Experts com

ing

early next year. Some

watch for a slump in build

ing

in

the

place.

Low numbers will vanish en

tiely in 1950 when the new

letter-numeral combination is

adopted.

Resettlement Plan

LEGISLATION to amend the

Indianapolis Redevelo

ment

Act is in the making. Present

law, passed in 1945, makes no

provision for rehousing house

holders evicted in slum clear

ance projects. This has led to

bitter court battles.

Amendment now being drawn

would mandate Redevelo

Commission to resettle all fam

ilies moved from slum projects

before wrecking dwellings.

Significance is not simply

humanitarian. Amendment is

necessary if Indianapolis wants to

qualify for federal aid in

event Wagner-Ellender-Taft or

similar housing legislation is

passed 61st Congress.

Mayor Feeney has made it

clear he will grab every dollar

of housing aid he can.

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