

Congress

Threaten to Let Rent Act Expire Over Filibuster

'Won't Kill Ourselves' Declares Dixie Bloc in Taunt at Truman

WASHINGTON, Mar. 7 (UP)—Filibustering southern Democrats threatened today to let the rent control law expire if the administration pushes its drive to curb Senate filibusters.

Chairman John J. Sparkman of a Senate Banking Sub-committee on Rents raised the threat during hearings on legislation to extend rent controls beyond the present Mar. 31 expiration date.

The Alabama Democrat said he could see "little use" of continuing rent control hearings as long as the Democratic leadership gives top priority to the proposed change in Senate debate rules.

Won't Kill Selves

"We're not going to kill ourselves" trying to get an extension of rent controls, he said. Then Mr. Sparkman added that "if rent control dies, I don't think it will ever be revived."

Sen. Paul Douglas (D. Ill.) suggested that the southerners could help by cutting short their Senate talkathon, which continued throughout last week. But Sen. Sparkman replied that the administration could help more by calling off its drive to curb filibusters.

Meanwhile, Republican and administration Democrats headed into a political row over who should be blamed if the anti-filibuster drive fails.

Elsewhere in Capitol Hill:

Labor Law

A member of the House Labor Committee said today that former Rep. Fred A. Hartley Jr., co-author of the Taft-Hartley law, is now the head of an organization officially termed "fascistic" by a New York state agency.

Rep. Cleveland M. Bailey (D. W. Va.) made the charge at a subcommittee hearing on the administration's new labor bill which calls for repeal of Taft-Hartley. Mr. Hartley is now president of the Tool Owners Union and a business consultant in Washington.

Justice

Defense Secretary James Forrestal urged Congress today to rewrite the antiquated military justice system into a uniform code for all services.

He said the old system is not as bad as its critics have claimed but that many complaints against courts martial procedures "have seemed to me to be justified."

Mr. Forrestal testified before the House Armed Services Committee at the opening of hearings on a proposed new system of laws and punishments for Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard. Mr. Forrestal said it would "afford more equal and uniform justice to the members of all the armed forces."

Spies

Sen. Karl E. Mundt (R. S. D.) said today that some Americans fired by the State Department as "security risks" have later turned up in the employ of the United Nations.

He said it is time the United States took the question to the United Nations where "we should insist that any Americans hired for the organization be screened by the State Department first."

Sen. Mundt said the House Un-American Activities Committee on which he served last year before his election to the Senate has the names of ousted State Department employees later hired by the United Nations.

The South Dakota Republican made his statement as he prepared to introduce legislation to restrict the activities of the Communist party in this country.

National Defense

Congressional sentiment appears to be in favor of changing the unification act of 1947 along the general lines of President Truman's new proposals.

Most Congressmen agreed with the President that efforts at unification so far have been disappointing. But some appeared to oppose details of the President's latest national defense plan on grounds that it should assure greater economy. Among other things, the President would promote the Defense Secretary to be a super-chief with overall authority for direction and control of the secretaries of Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Kite Fliers and Golfers Bask in Warm Weather



KITE WEATHER—Spring was in the air and so were hundreds of sailing, swirling kites yesterday as warm weather and high breezes brought out the boys and their high fliers. Ready to take to the air is 10-year-old Wilborn Duncan, 1342 S. Harding St.

Son Held in Deaths of Mother, Sister

Ex-Evansville Man Faces Murder Charge

HARRISBURG, Ill., Mar. 7 (UP)—A mother and her middle-aged daughter were beaten to death at their home in Eldorado, Ill., early today, and authorities held the son and brother, Sylvester Denton, 50, in connection with the double slaying.

The victims were Mrs. Mildred Gibson, 78, and her daughter, Mrs. Ida Davis, about 53, both of Eldorado.

Sheriff Fred Wilmeth said the murderer used a leg broken from a straight-back chair to club the two women to death as they lay in bed about 3:15 or 3:30 a. m. with the double slaying.

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State's Attorney C. A. White said he would file murder charges against Denton later today.

Found Praying

Sheriff Wilmeth said authorities picked up Denton, who had been staying at his mother's house since Monday, about six miles south of Eldorado on a gravel road outside of Muddy, Ill.

"He was on his hands and knees, praying or something," Sheriff Wilmeth said. He said they had been unable to obtain any information from Denton, who broke down under questioning.

Denton, a narcotics patient at Hopkinsville, Ky., mental hospital in 1932, had been arrested and jailed in Evansville, Ind., on a disorderly conduct charge Feb. 11 of this year.

Authorities at Evansville said Denton had been arrested there six times in the last year on similar charges.

Grand Jury to Probe Parent's Death in Fight

NOBLESVILLE, Mar. 7 (UP)—A Hamilton County Grand Jury will meet tomorrow to study the death of Edward Browning, 49, father of 14 children, who was killed in a fist fight last week.

Hold on a charge of assault and battery was Alfred Jenkins, 48, whom witnesses said knocked Mr. Browning down during a scuffle. Mr. Browning fell on a pile of broken concrete and his skull was fractured.

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Rescue 30 Seamen

TOKYO, Mar. 7 (UP)—Thirty crew members of the 900-ton freighter Elko Maru were rescued today before their ship sank in the narrow strait between Honshu and Kyushu Islands. The ship ran aground last night.

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Secretary of State Dean Acheson called envoys of the seven other participating nations to a meeting late today.

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