

Taft Blast at Ike Seen Splitting GOP

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (AP)—Sen. Robert A. Taft, in an explosive protest which could foreshadow a great legislative struggle between two wings of the GOP, today labelled President-elect Eisenhower's choice of a secretary of labor as "incredible."

The Ohio senator's blast over the selection of Martin P. Durkin shattered the outward show of harmony which prevailed during the election campaign between Eisenhower and the man he beat out for the Republican nomination.

In a statement from Cincinnati Taft described Durkin, 58-year-old head of the AFL plumbers' union, as a "partisan Truman Democrat." He said the selection was an "affront" to labor voters who backed the GOP ticket, and also to Democrats who jumped party lines.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (AP)—George M. Humphrey, President-elect Eisenhower's choice for secretary of the Treasury, said today he hoped the new administration could avoid a rift with Sen. Robert A. Taft, critic of Eisenhower's selection of a secretary of labor. Humphrey also said the new administration should have good relations with labor.

And he brought the matter down to more immediate political cases by asserting that Herbert Brownell has been "the key man in Cabinet appointments."

Brownell, picked by Eisenhower to be attorney general, has been closely associated with the Republican group around Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and was campaign manager in 1948 when the New Yorker defeated Taft for the nomination. Taft's implication was that the Dewey wing has taken over patronage and perhaps a commanding position on policy issues.

Taft said he had talked to Brownell and made "several recommendations" for appointments, adding:

"It was never even suggested that a man would be appointed who has always been a partisan Truman Democrat, who fought Gen. Eisenhower's election, and advocated the repeal of the Taft-Hartley law."

He disclaimed any reflection on the "character or ability" of Durkin himself.

Taft's mention of the T-H labor law, and of the secretary designate's stand on it, opened up the question of just how much cooperation Eisenhower can expect on legislative matters from the senators who usually follow the Ohioan's lead.

Durkin makes no bones about wanting more revision of the T-H law than Taft is likely to accept willingly, and he already has suggested new powers for the Labor Department that Taft may not want in the hands of a man whose selection he has criticized so roundly.

In addition to labor matters there are other broad areas of government policy where the Taft group in the Senate seldom sees eye to eye with those lawmakers usually identified with the Dewey forces.



Robert A. Taft Hits Durkin Selection

End of Nickel Phone Booth Call Authorized

HARRISBURG, Dec. 2 (AP)—The Public Utility Commission today authorized a \$21,227,000 a year rate increase for the Bell Telephone Co. signalling end of the nickel pay booth call in Pennsylvania.

Although the increase is the largest ever placed before the PUC by Bell, it was reduced by 36 per cent from the original \$33,009,000 the company sought. Sunday is the effective date.

Bell, ordered to pare some \$11,782,000, now must file revised statewide local exchange rates so that the lower rate of increase will be reflected in regular monthly home and business service bills to 2,100,000 subscribers.

If Bell files a uniform revision, it is estimated that local home telephone bills will rise an average of 32 cents instead of 50 cents under the company's rejected proposal.

Business rate increases, ranging from 50 cents to \$2 in the proposal, also would be proportionately lower.

Bell received the go-ahead from the commission, however, to raise public local coin box calls from five to 10 cents.

Reuther Apparently New CIO President

ATLANTIC CITY, Dec. 2 (AP)—The CIO worked today to repair a deep rift in its ranks over choosing a new CIO president—a scrap not yet over but apparently won by 45-year-old Walter Reuther.

The dynamic, red-haired Reuther, president of the big CIO auto workers union, was widely conceded as having whipped together enough votes to get the CIO presidency in any convention showdown.

Top officials were trying to get forces backing CIO Executive Vice President Allan S. Haywood, a 64-year-old veteran union leader who came up from the coal mines, to back off and concede to Reuther.

But Haywood and his chief supporter, David J. McDonald, president of the big CIO steelworkers union, were still pledging a finish fight that could spill over on the convention floor. Selection of officers is due Thursday.

The Haywood forces held a wildly applauded rally tonight at which Haywood, McDonald and Presidents Joseph A. Beirne of the communications workers and Michael J. Quill of the Transport Workers Union pledged a fight to the end in Haywood's behalf.

They adopted a resolution, supported by more than a score of smaller unions, refusing any quarter in the fight and insisting Haywood's name will be put in nomination against Reuther.

State Hit by Rain, Snow, Icy Roads

By The Associated Press Snow, mixed with rain in many areas, accompanied by freezing temperatures last night sounded a warning to motorists to "take it easy."

The snowstorm, second of the season, swept into Pennsylvania with what the Weather Bureau termed "jet speed" from the Middle West early yesterday.

By nightfall there was as much as two inches in Philadelphia and the eastern portion of the state while Pittsburgh and Western sections reported as much as three inches.

UN Western Bloc Rejects Russia Push For Ceasefire Now

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 2 (AP)—The Western bloc today soundly beat down Russia's stubborn drive in the UN Political Committee for an immediate Korean ceasefire, with negotiations to come later.

The committee, virtually exhausted after more than a month's argument, then suspended all talk on Korea until it hears Communist reactor to an Indian peace plan it approved last night.

Only the five Soviet bloc countries voted for the immediate cease fire. Forty-one countries, including the United States, Britain, France and Nationalist China, opposed it. Twelve countries abstained. They were Afghanistan, Argentina, Burma, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Ecuador and Yemen were absent.

The General Assembly was called to meet at 3 p.m., EST, tomorrow to consider the peace plan. When it is approved, Assembly President Lester B. Pearson is expected to send it to Peiping and Pyongyang for consideration of the Chinese and North Koreans.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Y. Vishinsky apparently intended to put the neutrals, such as India and other Asian and Arab countries, on the spot with his motion for a ceasefire now. They voted for the Indian peace plan approved by the committee yesterday, but they abstained today when the ceasefire idea was put up separately.

Little hope is held here that Red China and North Korea will accept the peace proposals approved by the committee. Representatives of the West said, however, that they wanted to make the attempt regardless of almost certain rejection.

An American spokesman expressed satisfaction with the huge vote for the Indian plan in the committee. It had been amended to make it acceptable to the West, especially, Western sources said, to make certain there would be no forced repatriation of prisoners of war if its terms are finally accepted.

Campaign Spending Cuts Sought

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (AP)—Congressmen hunting a way to bring some order into the chaos of political campaign spending heard a surprise suggestion today for a curb on the amount of editorial space a newspaper may use to back a candidate.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 2 (AP)—The state's two major labor organizations today reported spending a total of nearly \$30,000 supporting Democratic candidates in the recent presidential campaign. Anthony J. Federoff, chairman of the Pennsylvania CIO Political Action Committee, reported expenditures of \$14,926. County CIO groups received most of the money.

For the AFL, Earl C. Bour, secretary-treasurer of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, said the organization spent \$14,294. An AFL sponsored state-wide radio broadcast by defeated U.S. Senatorial Candidate Guy K. Bard represented the largest expenditure—\$2000.

That proposal, from Rep. Hoffman (R-Mich.), was in sharp contrast to go-slow advice offered by Chairman Arthur E. Summerfield of the Republican National Committee. While he conceded that more workable limitations on spending are desirable, Summerfield said the whole problem of changing the rules of voter wooing should be approached with caution.

The congressman and the GOP chairman, who is Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's selection to be postmaster general, were witnesses before a special House committee. The group, headed by Rep. Hale Boggs (D-La.), is concerned over loopholes in the law which permit changing the rules of voter wooing should be approached with caution.

The Fifth Air Force credited the kill to a Sabre ace, Lt. James F. Low of Sausalito, Calif. It brought Low's total bag to seven MIGs destroyed and two damaged.

Despite bad weather, Allied fighter bombers sliced Communist rail lines at 17 points in Western Korea and east of Pyongyang, the North Korean capital.

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40-Man Units Fight in Korea

SEOUL, Wednesday, Dec. 3 (AP)—Small 40-man units of grenade hurling Chinese infantry harassed South Korean defenders of snowy Sniper Ridge Tuesday in the only significant fighting on the bitterly cold Korean front.

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Convict Caught; Five at Large

WASHINGTON, Pa., Dec. 2 (AP)—One of five dangerous escaped convicts from Pittsburgh's Western State Penitentiary who held a family of five prisoners for two days was captured today in West Virginia less than 12 hours after making a new dash for freedom.

James Milk, 25, serving 10 to 20 years for robbery, was captured in a Western Union office at Charleston, W. Va. He was alone.

Milk was taken without a struggle as he went to the office for a money order for which he had wired to his home in Duquesne, near Pittsburgh.

Milk and four other prisoners fled after holing up from Sunday morning until early today at the home of Emile Lerby in the Little mining town of Rea, near Washington, Pa.

Held at bay were Lerby's wife, Ethel, 42; her son-in-law, John Gagich; her daughter, Mrs. Mary Gagich, 23; and two grandchildren—John Gagich Jr., 6 months, and Marlene, 2. Lerby had gone hunting.

The convicts took the Lerby and Gagich cars, two guns, knives

and clothes and sped south toward West Virginia. Pennsylvania State Police Lt. Singleton Shaffer said. Mrs. Lerby told state police the fugitives were "very gentlemanly and never abused us at anytime." They left when the entire family, exhausted from their long vigil, fell asleep early this morning.

Mrs. Lerby and her daughter's family were herded into a back bedroom Sunday night, and the routine started over again Monday.

"I guess we slept Monday night," Mrs. Lerby said, "although I'd never have believed it. But when we awoke this morning

they were gone." Ten convicts using prison-made knives broke out of the penitentiary after locking up four guards and a deputy warden.

One was caught on the roof and another outside the prison walls. Two others were captured yesterday, one in Pittsburgh, and the other in nearby McKeesport. Another convict still free was not with Milk and the four others.

Shaffer said the convicts left the Lerby residence driving a black 1949 convertible Ford, Pennsylvania license No. 2UG27, and maroon Ford convertible, Pennsylvania license No. N7443.

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