

Dent Offers Concessions For GOP Tax Support

HARRISBURG, Dec. 5 (AP)—Senate Democrats today revamped Gov. George M. Leader's proposed manufacturers' excise tax so that the yield would be \$50 to \$65 million less than the original \$425 million estimate.

And Sen. John H. Dent, Senate Democratic floor leader, said he is prepared to submit additional amendments as concessions to Republicans if there is any indication of GOP willingness to support the bill.

"It all depends upon how far the other side is prepared to go," Dent told newsmen. "There is no use in going ahead with more amendments unless there is some indication that the bill can pass."

The first action in the upper branch since the House passed the bill nearly two weeks ago came when the Senate Finance Committee sent the measure to the floor without any changes.

Democrats, after winning Republican approval, then inserted their amendments on the floor, placing the bill in position for debate tomorrow.

Sen. Rowland B. Mahany, Senate Republican floor leader, declined to predict when his party will make up its mind on whether to provide the necessary votes to pass the excise tax.

There were indications that such a decision may be postponed at least until next week since no GOP caucus is planned tomorrow. The Senate probably will adjourn for the week no later than Wednesday under present arrangements.

Lodge Urges UN To OK 'Sky' Plan

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 5 (AP)—Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. today urged the UN Political Committee to endorse President Eisenhower's "open sky" program for mutual aerial inspections between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Lodge assailed Soviet demands for the immediate elimination of nuclear weapons before establishment of adequate controls satisfactory to the West. He said the United States will not lend itself to such "hypocrisy and obscurantism."

In addition to disarmament, the committee is debating a Soviet item dealing with the reduction of international tensions.

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Langer Wants 2 Subpoenaed In Investigation

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 (AP)—Sen. William Langer (R-ND) demanded today that the Senate Antimonopoly subcommittee subpoena Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield and Sherman Adams, top White House aide, in the new Dixon-Yates probe.

Langer said he wants to bring out "how much money Mr. Dixon and Mr. Yates . . . contributed to the campaign funds of the Republican party" in the 1952 campaign in which President Dwight D. Eisenhower won election.

Their contract has been canceled and now the subcommittee, headed by Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn), is engaged in a search for any "criminal conspiracy" which might be connected with it.

Chairman Lewis E. Strauss of the Atomic Energy Commission and Budget Director Rowland R. Hughes both refused today to tell the senators whether they had discussed ramifications of the contract with Adams or anyone else at the White House.

They both contended any such discussions, if they were in fact held, would be privileged communications within the executive branch of the government.

Bill Deadlock Brings Crisis

BEDFORD, Pa., Dec. 5 (AP)—A school board president said today he will ask the Bedford County board of education to close all the county's schools unless the state soon appropriates funds to meet school expenses.

The statement was made by Dr. John A. Topper, a Democrat and president of the Hyndman-Londonderry Joint School Board, in an open letter to Democratic Gov. Leader.

Topper charged in the letter that the school appropriations bill introduced in the Senate last October is being used by the state administration as a "prying bar to shove through a tax bill." He also charged there is "political jostling" in Harrisburg.

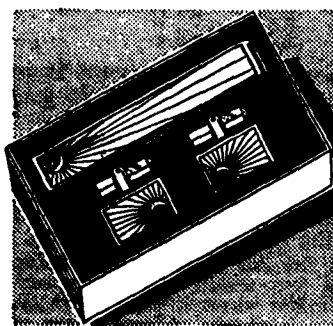
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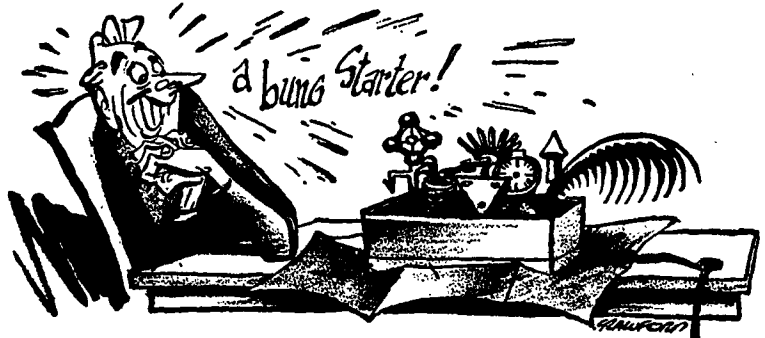


On Campus with Max Shulman

(Author of "Barefoot Boy With Cheek," etc.)

THE GIFT HORSE

Today's column is about Christmas gift suggestions, and I suppose you think I'll begin by suggesting Philip Morris. Well, the joke's on you. I'll do no such thing. Why should I? Anyone with two brains to knock together knows that Philip Morris makes an absolutely smashing Christmas gift. Only a poor afflicted soul with atrophied taste buds needs to be told about the new Philip Morris; its bracing flavor; its freshness, lightness, pleasantness, gentleness; its truth, its beauty, its brotherliness in this discordant world of ours. So why should I waste time telling you what you already know?



Let us, instead, turn to less obvious gift suggestions. Here's one I bet you never thought of:

Christmas is the best time of year, but it is also the beginning of winter. How about a gift that reminds one that though winter has come, spring is not far behind? I refer, of course, to Easter chicks. (Similarly, on Easter one can give Christmas chicks.)

Next, we take up the problem, common to all undergraduates, of trying to buy gifts when you have no money. To this dilemma I say—Faugh! It is not the price of the gift that counts; it is the sentiment behind it.

Take, for example, the case of Outerbridge Sigafos. Outerbridge, a sophomore, finding himself without funds last Christmas, gave his girl a bottle of good clear water and a nice smooth rock, attaching this touching message to the gift:

*Here's some water
And here's a rock,
I love you, daughter,
Around the clock.*

And the whole delightful gift cost Outerbridge less than a penny!

I am compelled to report, however, that Outerbridge's girl did not receive these offerings in the spirit in which they were tendered. In fact, she flew into a fit of pique, smashed the bottle on the rock and stabbed Outerbridge with the jagged edge. But the experience was not without value for Outerbridge. First, he discovered that the girl was not his type at all. Second, he learned how to make a tourniquet.

But I digress. Let's examine now a common complaint of Christmas shoppers: "What do you get for someone who has everything?"

To this I reply, "Does he?" Does he, for instance, have a unicycle? A sled dog? A serf? A burnoose? A hairball? A bung starter? (The bung starter, incidentally, was invented by two enormously talented men, Fred Bung and Otho Starter. Their partnership thrived from the very start, and there is no telling to what heights they might have risen had they not split up over a silly argument. It seems that Bung was a firm believer in reincarnation; Starter was just as firm a disbeliever. Bung insisted so violently on the truth of reincarnation and Starter scoffed so positively that they finally decided to go their separate ways. Singly, alas, the two fared badly. Starter gave up business altogether, joined the army, and was killed at San Juan Hill in 1898. He is today buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Bung drifted from job to job until he died of breakbone fever in Elizabeth, N. J., in 1902. He is today a llama in Uruguay.)

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The makers of Philip Morris, sponsors of this column, beg leave to add one more gift suggestion—MAX SHULMAN'S GUIDED TOUR OF CAMPUS HUMOR, a collection of the funniest stuff ever written on or about campus—now on sale at your bookstore.