

Republicans Compromise On Sales Tax Proposal

HARRISBURG, March 1 (AP)—The on-again, off-again battle among Senate Republicans on whether their 3 per cent sales tax proposal should extend to clothing was resolved in a compromise tonight.

Sen. Albert R. Pechan, assistant GOP floor leader, said the compromise calls for taxing furs, fur coats or fur-trimmed garments which already are now subject to federal excise taxes.

No other clothing would be taxed.

The decision ended 48 hours of behind-the-scenes bickering among GOP senators on the question of exempting clothing. Rejected were both a full exemption and full taxation as well as taxing items of clothing costing \$50 or more.

Pechan declined to estimate the yield on the sales tax as now drafted.

Secrecy Pledge Imposed

Sen. Rowland B. Mahany, Republican floor leader, imposed a secrecy pledge on all Republican senators on details of the new sales tax draft until after it reaches the floor.

The only thing Republican senators would say after Mahany imposed the gag was that the sales levy would come to a final showdown vote tomorrow.

Pechan predicted the sales levy would pass tomorrow—with or without Democratic help. Two Allegheny County Democrats—Sens. Bernard B. McGinnis and Theodore H. Schmidt—already have indicated they would vote for the tax.

Andrews Comments

In another development, Speaker Hiram G. Andrews (D-Cambria) made a personal appearance in the Capitol newsroom and told legislative correspondents:

"There appears to be some talk in Senate circles that commitments have been made that Democrats in the House will furnish all of the necessary votes to secure concurrence in Senate amendments to the sales tax.

No Commitments Made

"No such commitments have been made. No one is authorized to make such commitments. No commitments will be made until the matter is discussed in the Democratic House caucus . . .

"It would be my opinion that House Democrats—without pressure from any source—would vote their individual convictions."

Big Three Demand Financial Support

BONN, Germany (AP)—The Western Big Three formally presented to the West Germans today a demand for continued financial support of Western forces in this country.

American, British and French ambassadors outlined the view of their governments to Deputy Foreign Minister Walter Hallstein in a conference at the Foreign Office. German authorities said Hallstein and the envoys then "discussed procedure for further negotiations."

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Chairman Hall Gives Nixon Solid Support

WASHINGTON, March 1 (AP)—Republican National Chairman Leonard W. Hall threw his weight solidly behind Vice President Richard M. Nixon today for another term.

It was an important political boost for Nixon, whom some Republicans would like to see dropped from the ticket, and perhaps put away in a Cabinet post.

Hall held a news conference in the Young Republican wing of the National GOP headquarters. He planted himself in front of a huge photograph of President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Nixon, and exclaimed:

"It is the greatest team in the country."

Hall Called Prophet

A reporter told Hall he had been a good prophet in saying Eisenhower would run again, and asked him how he felt about another Eisenhower-Nixon ticket.

"I said sometime ago that I assumed the ticket would be the same as in 1952," Hall replied. "I will not change that one bit."

Theory Not Followed

In theory, a party chairman doesn't come out for any one candidate before the national convention, but Hall sounded as though that wouldn't be his practice in the case of Nixon any more than it was in the case of Eisenhower.

U.S. Protests Red Balloons

WASHINGTON, March 1 (AP)—The United States told Russia today that Soviet balloons have flown over U.S. territory—that is, Alaska—just as U.S. balloons have flown over Soviet territory.

An American note to the Kremlin asked in effect: So what are you complaining about?

"It is illogical," said the note made public by the State Department, "that the Soviet government should desire one rule for itself and another for the rest of the world."

Pope Marks 80th Birthday

VATICAN CITY, March 1 (AP)—Pope Pius XII, in apparent good health, reaches 80 tomorrow. As a feature of the day's events, he will receive 200 children from a score of nations.

Ike Enters Primaries In Wisconsin, California

WASHINGTON, March 1 (AP)—President Dwight D. Eisenhower thrust his second-term bid into the Wisconsin and California primaries today in the midst of political gales blowing up over his health and running mate.

Party battle lines for the oncoming campaign formed swiftly around the health issue.

Democrats drummed on the "part-time" president theme and set up Eisenhower's health as a key issue on grounds the President already had done so himself. Adlai Stevenson said in New York the presidency "cannot be conducted on a part-time basis."

Republicans predicted that such tactics would backfire and cost the Democrats votes.

Ike Backs Decision

Eisenhower backed up his big decision to try for another term with assurances to the American people last night that in spite of his September heart attack he is able to handle his presidential duties as well as ever—now and "indefinitely."

So, he said, "I shall accept" the presidential renomination he is sure to get. At the same time, he said, he will be a man operating under "restrictions," doctors' orders, and a lighter working schedule.

Enters Primaries

Shifting from words to action, Eisenhower signed today the papers which will put his name into the GOP primaries in Wisconsin April 3 and in California

June 5. His consent was required in those states and he gave it. And he will be in primaries in half a dozen other states where his consent wasn't needed.

Three Republican House members were tapped to fly to Wisconsin tonight with the President's signed entry for the primary.

Vice President Richard M. Nixon, Senate Republican Leader William F. Knowland of California and Gov. Goodwin Knight of California were picked to sponsor Eisenhower in their state.

Knowland Predicts

Knowland, who had presidential ambitions of his own until Eisenhower's hat-in-ring announcement yesterday, predicted California Republicans will unite behind the chief executive; that the President will be nominated unanimously at the GOP national convention starting Aug. 20 in San Francisco.

Although he bypassed a direct answer to a question whether he was backing Nixon, he told a news conference he assumes his fellow Californian will get second place on the ticket once more.

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