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New Senator

Umstead's Career Based On Hard Work

(This is the second in a series of three articles on a Senator who is no good politician, but he doesn't mix well, and that he has made his way by hard work instead of by winning friends and influencing people. By that it may be the new U. S. Senator from North Carolina, and a formidable power in state politics.

There is nothing pretentious in the man's conduct, but calm and quiet in his conversation, restrained and dignified in demeanor. He lacks the bluster and aggressiveness seen in many of the run-of-the-mill politicians. He looks a little out of place among the luxurious furnishings of the Public Hearing Room on the fifth floor of the big Hill building here.

He is an eminently successful law firm, numbering among its clients such concerns as the American Tobacco Co., the American Tobacco Co., Wick Chemical Co., the B. C. Remedy Co., and a host of others.

ENTERED ARMY

Following his graduation from the University of North Carolina, Umstead taught school at Winston. He left school to join the Army when the U. S. entered the war.

After the war he turned to the law, studying at Trinity College. Shortly after beginning his practice here, in 1922, he was elected prosecutor of the Durham County Court, and then became solicitor of the 10th judicial circuit.

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20 Per Cent Income Levy Slash Urged

Knutson Makes Late Change

WASHINGTON (AP)—A tax-trimming bill calling for a 20 per cent cut in income taxes on the first \$300,000 of individual incomes was offered today by Representative Knutson, Republican, Minnesota.

The prospective Republican chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee modified his bill at the last minute to introduce a flat 20 per cent cut across the board all individual income tax brackets, Knutson recommended.

Internal Revenue Bureau figures for 1946 showed that just over 600 persons in the United States had a gross income above \$300,000 that year.

Knutson said in a statement: "The reduction of the tax attributable to that portion of income exceeding \$300,000 is reduced by 10.5 per cent."

In general, he added, "incomes above \$300,000 are unearned."

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Makes Unsuccessful Break

Giant Negro Almost Escapes Just Before Execution Time

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(AP)—A powerful Negro who sought entry to a death cell to escape the electric chair, nearly won freedom in a death cell break before he was electrocuted today.

Clive Covington, 195-pound, six-foot, five-inch strong man, bent a one-inch death cell prison bar with his bare hands after sawing it and smashed down a death house inner door in an eleven-hour escape attempt.

The solid steel outer door of the death house blocked his road to the outer prison yard and possible escape over the high wall to freedom, when guards found him pacing the death house outer rooms and execution chamber like a caged animal.

Covington, convicted of coldly murdering a Winston-Salem, N. C. warehouse, Matt Martin, at a Mullins tobacco concern in August, 1945, had leaving Martin's paper-wrapped body in an outbuilding, met death in the chair—when he saw it was inevitable—easily and with a smile.

With a triple guard on hand, the 24-year-old Clive Negro walked calmly into the death chamber to speak to him, the 24-year-old Clive Negro, he said clearly to the crowded chamber. "I ask God to be with me. I believe Jesus is going to be with me."

Once strapped in the chair, he told Claude A. Sullivan of the penitentiary staff that he had the saw with which he weakened the death cell bar, concealed on him when he entered the prison.

None of the boys (prisoners) helped me. I did it myself. I was through with it. I gave it to the boy in the back cell."

He referred to Roy Singletary, who was sentenced to die today along with Rose Moore Stinnette, both Negroes convicted of the bloodiest death before her husband, but who granted a week's reprieve for a chimney appeal hearing next week before Governor Williams.

The switch was thrown and four minutes and 41 seconds later, Covington was dead, but only after eleven attempts, instead of the usual nine, had coursed through his body at the high speed of 2,300 volts.

"I guess it was because he was such a giant in strength," State Electrician Sam Cannon explained.

One young man in the crowd of witnesses and visitors fainted, but was left on the floor until Covington was pronounced dead. Then the death house door was unlocked and the youth taken from the death chamber stretch into the fresh air of the penitentiary yard where he revived.

Gov. Williams' previous sentence of life in the chair came at the Marion County jail. There he refused to budge from his cell when the time came for him to be brought to the penitentiary here.

"Kill me! Kill me! I don't want to die in the chair," he shouted when it was time to die. He fought furiously in an attempt to get them to shoot him to death, before he was overpowered with tear gas.

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Co-Operation Keynote

Republicans Elect Martin Speaker Of The New House

Washington (AP)—Triumphing Republicans quickly elected Joseph W. Martin of Massachusetts Speaker of the new House today but Senate organization for the 80th Congress stalled in debate over seating Theodore G. Bilbo of Mississippi.

Martin, first Republican to take over the House gavel in fifteen years, was elected by a vote of 352 to 177, with Democrats to co-operate with his party in handling such postwar problems as labor laws, taxation and Government economy.

The House then was ready for business with two major bills—a tax reduction measure and a comprehensive labor bill which would outlast the closed shop and force arbitration of disputes by resorting to strikes—already in the legislative hopscotch.

Republicans JAMMED Hundreds jammed capitol corridors hours before the opening gavel, seeking admittance to Senate galleries to hear the scrap over Bilbo. Company men, claim reigned in the House galleries.

The first Republican-controlled Congress since 1933 convened promptly at noon.

In the House, Ralph Roberts, Republican, introduced a bill signaling the start of a potentially big new industry—prayer by the Rev. James Sheer Montgomery was the first order of business.

In the White House President Truman heard and saw the opening House proceedings by means of television.

A seat was installed temporarily in the House of Representatives to hold the Chief Executive to keep the House from being out of session. The Radio Corporation of America provided Mr. Truman with a small church near the Capitol for house use. It has a ten-person screen.

The House was started, but not alarmed, as windows rattled and chandeliers shook. Two separate rooms of about five seconds duration each were felt. Some Japanese reported hearing a rumble.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—(AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in an interview said today that the mention of his name as a Presidential candidate "is not good for the great organization with which I am associated."

Eisenhower, the Army's Chief of Staff, made it plain that he was not going to be a candidate for the White House, but he said he would not rule out the possibility of running in the future.

Asked about his possible retirement, the Chief of Staff said, "I am not sure of the future. I do not know what I will do in the future. I am not sure of the future. I do not know what I will do in the future."

He looked forward to a "future day" when the United States might find herself alone against a hostile world, as England was after the fall of France.

"I am convinced that the world has gone to find a way to settle differences peacefully," said Gen. Eisenhower. "Wars are engendered by the selfishness of men. In the past we have had allies and factors which gave us ample time to prepare. This holds true today, but perhaps it will not in future years."

In recognition of this we have one staff in Washington whose job it is to keep the world in touch with our people. It is our duty to keep the world in touch with our people. It is our duty to keep the world in touch with our people.

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Strike Curb Proposals Brought Up

Hard Struggle In Prospect

WASHINGTON (AP)—Members of Congress from both major parties opened a drive today to prevent strikes which affect the public health or safety—including coal strikes.

The drive faces strong opposition and all proposals to compel unions and employers to settle their disputes by arbitration or to lock out are being fought not only by organizer labor but by wide segments of industry.

Rep. Howard Smith, Democrat of Virginia, introduced a lengthy labor bill immediately after the opening ceremonies were out of the way in the House.

One provision is designed to force arbitration of disputes in the most essential industries.

AGAINST CLOSED SHOP Another measure outlines a "closed shop" and a third would forbid collective bargaining on an industry-wide basis—using steel and steel, both of which suffered crippling strikes last year.

Smith said in an interview that he has been studying the public interest must be paramount. "I think it's a mistake to let the immediate interests of the special classes of either labor or industry."

House Republicans were ready with another bill—a repeat measure—which also would require compulsory arbitration in the resort in order to prevent strikes affecting the public health or safety.

These are the bill, Achnincoln, New Jersey; Clifford Case, New Jersey; Hester, Massachusetts; Hale, Maine; and Heselton, Massachusetts.

Hester told a reporter: "Since I have reviewed it very carefully and am more than ever convinced that it is essential. We see no other way of protecting the public interest."

COMPULSORY ARBITRATION In compulsory arbitration, the Government would require a disputing union and employer to let some third party settle their argument. Senator Ferguson, Republican, Michigan, is writing a bill to do this through a neutral system of arbitration.

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Mayor Offers Motion To Bar Mississippians

Battle To Prevent Southerner From Taking Senate Oath Opens

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senator Theodore G. Bilbo was temporarily blocked by a Democratic caucus objection today when he presented himself to take the oath for a third Senate term.

Debate on the Mississippians' rights began immediately and delayed organization of the Senate. The talk promised to be lengthy.

This happened in quick succession: BALDWIN SWORN

Under alphabetical procedure, Senator Baldwin, Republican, Connecticut, was sworn, the first of those elected Nov. 5. Bilbo's name came up next, and he walked to the rostrum, with Senator Overton, Democrat, Louisiana.

Senator Taylor, Democrat, Idaho, promptly objected to Bilbo taking the oath. He offered a resolution to bar Bilbo from membership pending further inquiry into his qualifications by the Senate Rules Committee.

Taylor then swung into an hour's speech denouncing the Southerner, whose relations with war contractors have recently been under investigation.

In the booming voice he perfected as a tent-show bellower, Taylor read a series of newspaper stories quoting Bilbo as advising white Mississippians to "use every means" to prevent Negroes from voting. (Bilbo contends that he always said "every legal means" or "every means within the law.")

"Mr. President," Taylor said, "when Mr. Bilbo exhorted his followers to 'use every means' to prevent Negroes from voting, he was not talking in a climate of hate, of burning flesh, of tar, of feathers and gunpowder."

"Mr. President, in the white robe and hood the uniform of a debating society, is it the custom of a discussion group? Or is it the mask of the Ku Klux Klan . . . ?"

"Mr. Bilbo has taken the solemn midnight pledge of membership in this organization. He has signed his name in blood to its tenets."

As Taylor took Bilbo as down next to the rostrum, he declared: "I think that is simply rotten, patrician politics on the part of the Republican leadership."

Ellender said there was "no talk of a filibuster" but added that the group proposed, if necessary, "to spend at least a few days in discussing the law and precedent aspects of the matter."

Following the debate were the following Senators: Holland of Florida, Maybank and Johnson of South Carolina, Thomas of Oklahoma, McClellan of Arkansas, George and Russell of Georgia, Overton of Louisiana, Connally of Texas, Robertson of Virginia, Hoy of North Carolina, Stewart of Tennessee and Hatch of New Mexico.

Several Republicans, including Taft of Ohio, sought a chance to speak, but retiring Senator McClellan, who had been seated Bilbo "without prejudice" as to the Senate's future action on any other case against the Mississippi Senator.

Senator Eller, Democrat of Oklahoma, a Bilbo supporter, immediately demanded a roll call to determine whether a quorum, or majority, of the members was present. Senator Ellender declared as a time-consuming device.

The roll call showed 52 Senators present. Several Republicans, including Taft of Ohio, sought a chance to speak, but retiring Senator McClellan, who had been seated Bilbo "without prejudice" as to the Senate's future action on any other case against the Mississippi Senator.

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Ohio Mystery

Co-Ed And Former Convict Sought

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—The parents of a twenty-year-old co-ed and a 42-year-old ex-convict who disappeared together New Year's Day disagreed sharply over the couple's intentions today as police searched for them.

Said Robert N. Hemming, father of Robert H. Hemming, "I convinced it was not an abduction, but a voluntary departure. I am sure Robert will marry her as soon as he can. He is free to do so."

Said Prof. E. E. Kimberly of Ohio State University, after receiving a report that his daughter, Mary Virginia had declined to part with Hemming.

"If that is true, I am convinced that the couple will be together. He strongly claimed a hint that the pair might have eloped."

The couple was last seen when they appeared at the home of Hemming's cousin in Lakewood, a suburb of Cleveland, last yesterday.

Meanwhile, police in Ohio and neighboring states interested themselves in the search for the red-haired Ohio State student and Hemming, who disappeared in Cleveland last year.

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Libyan-Egyptian Unity Demanded

CAIRO (AP)—Al-Kada, organ of the Waftist bloc, said today that a newly organized political party in Tripoli had issued a communique demanding "unity of Libya with Egypt under the Egyptian crown."

The Egyptian Tripolitanian Party, the new paper added, said it had the support of the Tripolitanian people. It was formed in Tripoli, he said, and was headed by the "Libyan Viceroy."

Al-Kada said it would destroy British maneuvers in Libya because British demands for Egyptian independence of Libya and at the same time increasing its influence and building military establishments in the country.

Libya is the former Italian colony which was taken over by British troops in 1943.

Psycho Rocked By Two Tremors

TOKYO (AP)—Two tremors today rocked Tokyo, still jittery from southwestern Japan's recent earthquake and waves, but not meteorologists said they were too light to cause damage.

The first was started, but not alarmed, as windows rattled and chandeliers shook. Two separate rooms of about five seconds duration each were felt. Some Japanese reported hearing a rumble.

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