

Friday, October 8, 1972

CONNOLLY

Treasury Secretary Connolly - today was explaining "Phase Two" of the President's new economic program; setting forth the duties of the various new boards - assigned to oversee the plan. He stresses that the President himself intends to maintain final authority over wages and prices. Along the way, Secretary Connolly also noting today's announcement - of a one tenth of one percent drop in unemployment. Adding, however, that "with the on-going stabilization program the President announced last night, with the tax measures we have pending in Congress, we have every reason to believe we are going to create from five hundred thousand to a million new jobs."

And where will it all end? "At the point" - said he - "where the people of this country can expect stability in their economic system."

ELKINS FOLLOW CONNOLLY

Meanwhile, President Nixon was flying today - to Elkins, West Virginia; to take part - in the Autumn Mountain Foliage Festival. In a statement issued enroute he urges a speedy settlement of the current soft coal walk-out. Said he: "Labor contracts are being settled daily in other industries - there is no reason why a settlement should not be reached in the coal mining industry."

PHU CAT

The U S F-4 Phantom Jet, with its supersonic speed and its weapons was one of the most potent weapons in the U S arsenal in Vietnam. Now the U S Three Hundredth and Thirty Ninth Phantom Fighter Squadron - stationed Phu Cat air base has been ordered to cease combat operations. Both men and planes heading home; all a part of the President's latest withdrawal program.

The first such pull back. And it cuts by about twentyfive percent the number of phantoms assigned to Vietnam. Still another squadron of Phantom jets also stationed at Phu Cat - soon to follow.

SEXTON follow PHU CAT

The Viet Cong today released an American prisoner they had held more than two years. Sergeant John Sexton of Warren, Michigan - finding his way to the town of Loc Ninh near the Cambodian border. Bedraggled, foot sore, weary - also, terribly thin - but otherwise the medics say he's in "good condition." He, too, will be heading home, and has already had his family on the phone. Says his father: The first thing he wants when he gets home is "a Christmas dinner with the works - sweet potatoes, baked beans, turkey, ham." Then the elder Sexton added: "I guess he's had a lot of time to think about that."

ALGIERS - RABAT

For Soviet Premier Kosygin - it was hail and farewell today to Algeria. In a final brief interview at Algiers airport he tried to stress positive aspects of his visit, saying that he and Algerian President Houari Boumedienne - had "talked of Israeli aggression in the Middle East - and of Vietnam;" and found that their opinions - "often coincided."

Now on to Rabat - capital of West-leaning Morocco - where we are told - he will show a Soviet desire to be friendly with Arab nations - whatever their politics.

AMSTERDAM

For touring Emperor Hirohito of Japan - a difficult day. At London's Royal Botanical gardens - somebody cut down a Japanese tree he had planted there just yesterday, leaving a sign reading: "They did not die in vain."

Later - the Emperor flying to Amsterdam, where somebody threw a rock at his car - smashing the windshield. A member of the Dutch Parliament was even demanding the Emperor's arrest as a war criminal; and a number of Dutch veterans were threatening demonstrations.

BELFAST

*Belfast has long had a water shortage, and now -
gunmen - allegedly I R A - have blown up a vital
reservoir pumping station, cutting off the supply - to
thousands living in western Belfast. Doing "a bloody good
job of it," says the Belfast Water Commissioner.*

DAVIS

Davis, California - the case for Senator Muskie of Maine; as presented by his wife - Mrs. Jane Muskie. She says her husband had three choices when he was asked whether he could accept a black running mate if nominated for President. That is, "he could have said yes, no or maybe". But says Mrs. Muskie; "they asked for an honest opinion - and most of them appreciated getting one." Mrs. Muskie adding that her husband also found it "deplorable" - that he had to reject a black running mate as unelectable. She also said: "The issue of Catholicism went away when John Kennedy brought it out into the open - and hopefully the same will happen with this issue."

CHICAGO-PESHTIGO

October Eighth, Eighteen Seventy-One - a hundred years ago - the great Chicago fire; with an estimated three hundred dead - also destroying the home of ninety thousand more - causing damage in the billions. Modern day Chicago is marking the occasion this weekend with a parade and speech-making, using the slogan: "Out of the ashes rose a great city!"

Oddly enough, the citizens of Peshtigo, Wisconsin were marking a similar occasion today. The one hundredth anniversary - of the great Peshtigo fire; a blaze that swept through the timberlands of northeastern Wisconsin and northern Michigan - almost simultaneous with the great Chicago fire; only far far worse - with fifteen hundred dead. The worst fire in American history. Peshtigo, Wisconsin!

HARRISBURG

Is this a victory for mens lib? At Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Attorney General J. Shane Creamer - rules that womens' beauty parlors must also serve men - if so requested. Creamer asserting: "If a male desires to have his hair fashioned - his sex alone should not preclude him from having this service performed - just as a woman's sex has never precluded her from availing the services of a barber.

Can't you hear it now, Bill? "Not too short in the back! not too high on top! - and, go easy on the spray?"

DETROIT

Here's one - Detroit - a forecast that the automobile of ten years hence - may have a body made largely of plastic foam. This according to Doctor William Burlant - a Ford chemist - ~~who~~ who cites as evidence the fact that urethane foam both rigid and flexible - is now being used in bumpers; grill work, dash padding and so on; mainly - for safety reasons.

All of which would seem to indicate - if you're driving home late some night - you have an accident - your car is all ~~is~~ torn up - you can't figure out what to do - well, you can pull ^{off a} ~~up a~~ fender - or maybe a door - and just sleep on it ^{and} say - s - Mm.