

REPUBLICANS

Thurs, Jan. 19-67.

A second "State of the Union" program - offered today by top Republicans; in answer to President Johnson's plans for the new Congress - as stated last week. The G O P program labeled: "Sensible solutions for the seventies"

House Minority leader Gerald Ford - handling the Republican line on domestic matters, ~~Flatly~~ rejecting the President's request - for a six percent surcharge on income taxes; and calling instead for a retroactive increase ~~an~~ of eight percent - in Social Security benefits; along with creation of a "common market" for the western hemisphere.

Senate Minority Leader Everett Dirksen - the spokesman on foreign affairs, ~~Branding~~ as "unthinkable" -- any U S retreat from Viet Nam; yet questioning the results U S diplomacy - around the world. The answer -- said he -- "More attention to the conservation of our own strength and resourc^{es}~~es~~ - and less to those nations of the world who regard us as an amiable, vulnerable, jolly Santa Claus."

WEATHER

On the East Coast -- and on the West Coast -- the weather! How is it where you are?

Along the eastern seaboard -- bitter cold in the North; temperatures hitting thirty-five below, in the New York Adirondacks. While to the South -- six inches of snow falling on Washington; snow closing schools in Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia.

Out West -- twenty-four inches of snow in twenty-four hours -- in Washington -- the Cascades. Also gales and heavy rain lashing the Northern Pacific coast.

VIET NAM

On the war front - North Viet Nam and the Communist Viet Cong joined today in a flat "no", to South Viet Nam's offer to negotiate a week-long truce - ~~days~~ during the Asian New Year holidays next month. Communist Radio calling the summons to negotiate - a "ruse" to cover up alleged "war crimes" by the South Vietnamese.

On the political front - South Vietnamese Premier Ky and Madame Ky scored a personal triumph today - on their visit to Australia. ~~Was~~ Winning praise in Sydney - and cheers in Canberra.

At one point - Ky engaging in public debate with a Communist newsman. Finally inviting the reporter to accompany him back to Viet Nam - to see for himself whether Ky was telling the truth or not. Madame Ky later extending a similar invitation to opposition leader Arthur Calwell - ~~one~~ of the few still openly hostile to the visitors.

WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW KOREA

Here at home President Johnson today presented a Congressional Medal of Honor -- to Major Bernard Fisher of Kuna, Idaho; for landing in the midst of a battlefield in Vietnam -- to rescue another flier who had just crashed.

The President further taking the opportunity -- to praise not only Major Fisher but all American fliers in Vietnam who have bravely accepted an extra-risk -- said the President; in order to conduct -- "the most careful and self-limited air war in history."

Major Fisher is the first airman -- to win a Medal of Honor in Vietnam. Also -- the first live airman in U.S. history -- ever to win the award.

HOUSE

In Washington -- Congressman Emanuel Celler; Senior member of the House -- appointed to serve as Chairman of a special nine-man committee; to determine whether Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell -- is fit to serve in the Nineteenth Congress.

Celler -- Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee -- to be joined on the panel by four Democrats and four Republicans. The Democrats Corman of California, ~~Butt~~⁹ Pepper of Florida, Jacobs of Indiana and Conyers of Michigan. All considered liberals. The Republicans -- Moore of West Virginia, Teague of California, MacGregor of Minnesota and Thomson of Wisconsin.

The Committee under orders to report back -- within five weeks.

WALT DISNEY

After the recent sudden death of Walt Disney, I often heard the remark: Now what will happen to the fabulous Disney empire? As you know there have been many articles in the press since the passing of Walt, telling of the great organization he had set up, how everything had been arranged for it to continue and grow no matter what happened to him. This is a matter of interest to countless millions of people.

I happened to be in Europe when the news came about friend my/-- and your friend -- Walt Disney; and I was much interested in the tributes paid to him in the press, everywhere. Even "The Thunderer," The Times of London, featured it on the first page. For Walt Disney was indeed one of the top personalities of our time.

Then, in Alaska recently I saw a tribute that in a way impressed me more than any other. A citizen of the city

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of Anchorage, a builder, a contractor, Joseph A. Bielawski, bought a full page in the Anchorage Daily Times and kept the page all blank except for a couple of lines reading as follows: To Walt Disney -- like Santa Clause he will always be with us. From the children of the world -- of all ages. Signed: The Joseph A. Bielawski family."

It cost Alaskan Joe Bielawski some hundreds of dollars to do that. An impressive tribute to the memory of a remarkable man.

PHILADELPHIA

The U.S. Supreme Court -- under fire today from an eminent Philadelphia lawyer. W. W. Braham -- President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association -- urging the Highest Court in our land to put more trust in the American Judicial System; also, to show more concern for the common good -- when it comes to a question of individual rights.

Braham's remarks -- in regard to recent Supreme Court rulings on self-incrimination; some of ~~the~~ which have resulted in outright release -- of confessed murderers, rapists and robbers.

Such cases -- demonstrating how far the Fourteenth Amendment has been stretched in recent years -- said the President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Adding that "when the framers of the Constitution forbade compelling a man to give evidence against himself -- they had human torture in mind; whereas the high court today virtually denies the "right of investigation" -- said he.

CHRISTCHURCH - New Zealand

Here's a note from Christchurch, New Zealand -
in the land Down Under. News today that sixty-three year
old Max Conrad - ~~the~~ famed American "Flying Grandfather" -
will soon attempt another record-breaking ~~flight~~ flight,
a flight around the world - by way of the North and South
Poles -- a flight first made ^{only} a little over a year ago by
Harrison Finch, Fred Austin and their companions in
a big jet. ^{TP} ~~Now~~ Can a light plane do it? /

^ Max Conrad says he hopes ~~ptx~~ to do it - next
month. Following much of the same route - that Lowell
Junior described for us on the air as he and his colleagues
made that first ~~xaught~~ round-the-world flight ~~at~~ over
both poles in Nineteen Sixty-Five.

UNITY

With the beginning of Christian Unity Week throughout the world -- a progress report today on results of the Ecumenical movement right here in the United States. With Protestant and Catholic clergymen telling of happenings in recent months & that would have been inconceivable just a few years ago.

For example, a struggling young Lutheran Congregation in Mequon, Wisconsin - losing its lease on a building it had been using as a temporary place of worship; whereupon the nuns of a nearby Catholic convent - immediately offered an alternate place of worship - free of charge. ¶ Much the same - in reverse - ~~in~~ at Philadelphia. Fire destroying St. Agatha's Catholic Church - whereupon neighboring Lutheran and Episcopal churches quickly donated their own facilities.

On a broader scale -- Catholics, Episcopalians, Congregationalists and Presbyterians in Kansas City -

joining forces to build a four hundred thousand dollar common church complex - in a previously-neglected slum area. While in New York City- the National Council of Churches - which represents Protestant deonominations - appointing a Jesuit priest to its executive staff.

Just a beginning - to be sure. Nevertheless,

Quite an
~~achievement~~ *achievement - in view of the mutual hostility between Catholics and Protestants in the recent past.*

An achievement hailed by Catholics and Protestants alike - as "one of the most powerful manifestations of the holy spirit in the world today."

SENATE FOLLOW VATICAN

Another rare occurrence today -- on Capitol Hill.

Senator Bobby Kennedy of New York - getting his hair cut in the Senate barbershop, After a constituent sent him two dollars - for same; in order to preserve - as he put it - the "image that the country might have of the Empire State."

All of which - leading to comment from colleagues; that Senator Dirksen of Illinois - is getting to look "more ~~that way~~ every day." ~~However~~, Dirksen explaining his flowing mane - in the ~~file~~ following words: "Well, I thought we might as well have Beatles - on each side of the aisle" said ~~the Senator from Illinois~~ ^{the Senator from Illinois}.

ROME

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Latest word in Italian fashions: A collection of resort wear -- unveiled today by the Fontana Sisters of Rome.

The biggest news - not in hemlines - which remain discreetly near the knee-cap; but rather in play suits - Italian style. "Fun" outfits - ~~not~~ coming in the brightest colors imaginable; with one leg short - the other long - and sleeves to match.

One special costume - complete with a so-called "beach cabin hat." A hat more like a shroud - covering the wearer from head-to-knee, ~~xx~~ except for cut-outs - at the eyes.

The Fontana sisters calling their collection - "the spirited" look. Which apparently means it takes plenty of spirit - to dare to wear such things, *and* ~~as~~ *as* - *l* - *t* - *m*.

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