

LT BUICK, FISHER, MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1965
(Richard C. Hottelet, substituting for LT, in Africa)

GOP

The "Ev and Jerry Show" debuted today on Capitol Hill - and hit the headlines first time out.

It was the initial joint news conference held by Senate Republican Leader Everett Dirksen and House GOP Leader Gerald Ford. The big news was their announcement of plans for the formation of a new high-powered committee designed to give the Republican Party a clearer, stronger voice in national affairs.

As detailed by Dirksen and Ford, the co-ordinating committee would include eleven top Republicans in Congress - as well as five Republican governors and all five living Republican Presidential candidates. These they listed in reverse chronological order as Barry Goldwater, Richard Nixon, Dwight Eisenhower, Thomas Dewey and Alfred M. Landon.

Chairman of the committee, as envisioned by Ev and Jerry would be Dean Burch, the party's embattled national

committee chairman. Burch's first job, they said, would be that of getting the other prospective members to join him on the committee.

Both made it clear, however, that in the absence of a Republican President, Republican legislators would continue to "guide Party policy at the National level by the record they write in Congress."

VISIT

The British Foreign Office disclosed today that Prime Minister Harold Wilson and Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin will exchange visits this Spring. According to the British, Mr. Kosygin will visit London some time in March, with Mr. Wilson to return the call in Moscow at a later date - still to be determined.

The announcement ended growing speculation that Kosygin might reject the trip to the West - his first as Premier - in deference to internal affairs. However, it raised new speculation that the Soviet Premier may yet exchange visits with President Johnson this year, as suggested by Mr. Johnson in his State of the Union message last week.

No official word on that yet - just unofficial hints that the Kremlin now has the matter - under consideration.

Lowell Thomas is far afield tonight - but he has sent us some thoughts that are close to home --- Lowell

runs 1:18

etc:

"...rocky mountains... so long."

...over in this country. All fifty two of them. His only rival - his son Bob who was with him on all fifty two ascents - starting as a youngster and now he's middle aged. Recently his grandsons have been his companions. I've just been reading an account of how Carl Melzer re-climbed a fourteen thousand foot peak, this for the fun of it at the age of seventy two. Quite an achievement. Maybe there's a moral in this for some of us somewhere. At any rate, here is a salute to the Professor at the University of Denver who doesn't let his seventy-three years hold him back from climbing the highest peaks in our lovely Rocky Mountains.

MELZER

HELLO EVERYBODY:

Some of us go to the sea to recharge our batteries. Some go to the sunny South - some to the desert. And others find renewed vigor in the mountains - like an old old friend of mine, Carl Melzer of Denver, Colorado. Carl at seventy three is still climbing the highest of the peaks in the Rockies. Carl Melzer began his mountain climbing in the Rockies some sixty years ago and by Nineteen Thirty Nine he had become the first, I believe, to conquer all of the peaks fourteen thousand feet and over in this country. All fifty two of them. His only rival - his son Bob who was with him on all fifty two ascents - starting as a youngster and now he's middle aged. Recently his grandsons have been his companions. I've just been reading an account of how Carl Melzer re climbed a fourteen thousand foot giant, just for the fun of it at the age of seventy three. Quite an achievement. Maybe there's a moral in this for some of us somewhere. At any rate, here is a salute to the Professor at the University of Denver who doesn't let his seventy-three years hold him back from climbing the highest peaks in our lofty Rocky Mountains.

Solong,

VIET NAM

This tangled web of news tonight from Viet Nam?

In the ancient Imperial Capital of Hanoi, there were anti-government strikes and demonstrations led by massed students. In the ~~current capital~~ Saigon, there were reports that the U.S. and insurgent South Vietnamese generals might be near a compromise on restoration of civilian rule. And in the war itself, the Viet Cong rebels offered this surprise announcement - a three-day truce during the Vietnamese New Year's celebration, beginning February second.

RUSSELL FOLLOW VIET NAM

Officials of the striking International Longshoremen's Association have decided to try again on the contract that their members have already twice rejected. Union President Thomas "Teddy" Gleason said today that the contract will be resubmitted to the state of the war in Viet Nam.

Afterward, Chairman Richard Russell of Georgia offered his own opinion of the situation. The file rejection of the proposed new contract was simply the result of a misunderstanding. It was a fear - "endless stalemate" until South Viet Nam develops a stable government - with popular support. "Up to now", said Russell, "we have been losing ground instead of gaining it". He added: "The miracle to me is that they can carry on the war as well as they have".

STRIKE

Officials of the striking International

Longshoremen's Association have decided to try again on the contract that their members have ~~already~~ once rejected. Union President Thomas "Teddy" Gleason

said today that the contract will be resubmitted to the sixty-six, striking longshoremen, and he will

personally urge its approval. Gleason said rank-and-file rejection of the proposed new contract was simply the result of a misunderstanding. It was a fear - groundless, he said - that the agreement would lead to more automation and thus fewer jobs.

But even as Gleason called for ratification of the contract, the dock strike spread to Atlantic and Gulf Ports from Maine to Mexico. And at latest count, the walkout had already left more than one hundred ships stranded in port.

RESCUE

VERY HUMAN

Then there's this item from the lifeboat station at Christchurch, England. It's the final report on rescue operations of the Christchurch Lifeboat crew during the past year.

Rescue missions successfully completed - twenty-six. Thank you notes received in return - one.

And was a word from

Doc Noel —

HUMPHREY

Congress will enact some form of Medicare "before the first bloom of spring". That word today from Vice President-elect Hubert H. Humphrey. His forecast was the high-spot of a Washington conference of some eight hundred top leaders of the AFL-CIO. Mr. Humphrey also predicted that the nation's economy will continue to expand and grow under the Johnson Administration.

Next, lest he be accused of over-enthusiasm. Mr. Humphrey recalled that he once forecast a five hundred billion dollar national economy -- which the nation has long since surpassed. Then, tongue in cheek, the man who has been described as perhaps the leading liberal in the Democratic party, -- added this: "That's one of my troubles. I've always been too conservative".

That's the news -- As LT would say, solong until tomorrow.