El Paso Herald-Post



*Othman*

## Senators Insist on Being Present Although Absent

By FREDERICK C. OTHMAN

WASHINGTON, April 7.—A senator, like Aladdin, can rub his trusty lamp and be in two places at once. No trick at all. Doesn't even need mirrors. When all the senators are polishing their lamps at once, they multiply something awful and we find ourselves beset by 222 of these gentlemen, instead of the 96 we actually elected. This is a little confusing to me and to Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, who makes it a practice of being only one place at a time, like other people.


Othman

The ghostly lawgivers were flitting invisibly all over the place when Vice President Alben W. Barkley said he was tired of counting senators who were not there. Last Thursday, he said. He counted 49 actual, earthly noses on the job. When the Congressional Record appeared, he said, it showed that 89 senators had answered to their names. The 40 extra senators, obviously, were wraiths.

**Want Constituents to Know**

Mr. Barkley said this had to stop. He intended to preside over the senate, not a seance. A number of gentlemen protested that if they were busy in committee in the office building then obviously they were entitled to be counted present, so their constituents would know they were on the job.

And from here on, gentle reader, read carefully, because it gets not only insulting, but complicated. The majority leader, Scott W. Lucas of Ill. said that since the Senate was so jammed with work, couldn't it grant unanimous consent for five of its major committees to meet during regular senatorial sessions?

"I object," snapped Senator Taft. Senator Lucas protested bitterly. Said it looked to him like a concerted attempt was being made to keep the committees from working.

**Taft Gets Laugh**

"If you won't permit the senators to work on these committees," he cried, "you can't expect them to sit here all afternoon listening to these discussions."

The non-ghostly Senator Taft smiled broadly. Said he'd counted all the senators on the five committees, including duplications, and they added up to 111. This, he indicated, would have left minus 15 senators on the floor to discuss European relief. Or perhaps there would have been 222 senators, if they'd all rubbed their lamps and got counted twice.

Here came what the official reporters call laughter. Mr. Barkley banged his ivory gavel. And Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon, said he'd heard a good deal of criticism in the cloakrooms about the way Senator Lucas was cracking the whip over the lawgivers.

**Just a Prima-Donna**

Senator Morse said he, himself, was a prima donna who couldn't stand such driving.

Senator Lucas said Senator Morse, his dear friend, was a know-it-all.

"He is omniscient," the gentleman from Illinois continued about the gentleman from Oregon. "He has the answer, Mr. President, to every question that comes to the floor of this Senate. And as for cloakroom gossip, why . . ."

The things he'd heard about Senator Morse, he said, were not printable in the record. Senator Lucas said that he had tried to defend his good friend from Oregon and almost lost three other friends for his pains.

**Senators Need Shut-eye**

By now there weren't many gentlemen on the flour, except the ghost, and Mr. Barkley couldn't count those. Senator William J. Fulbright of Arkansas pleaded for attention.

Here he'd been trying for an hour to get the Senate back on the track, namely debate on the relief bill, and what happened? Ghosts flitted. So did insults. A fine way to run a railroad.

And my guess is that the senators, including the ghosts, need a little sleep. They're getting touchy.

## Big Three Speed West German Talks

*By United Press*

WASHINGTON, April 7.—Foreign ministers of the Big Three Western Powers are seeking to establish a Western German state by late summer, diplomatic informants said today.

Secretary of State Acheson was said to have told the foreign ministers of Britain and France that the three powers must speedily resolve their differences on the German question.

Acheson, Ernest Bevin of Britain and Robert Schuman of France resume their talks at the State Department today and are expected to complete their business by nightfall. The ministers made such progress during a four-and-a-half-hour meeting yesterday that they dropped their original plans to continue the conferences through tomorrow.

Though a strict news blackout was maintained concerning the talks, the ministers were expected to issue a communique after their final meeting.

## Everybody's Wondering

*By United Press*

WASHINGTON, April 7.—President Truman last night passed on to freshman Democratic congressmen some sage advice that an old Missouri judge gave him when he was first elected to the Senate.

Mr. Truman said the old judge came to him and said:

"Harry, don't you go to the Senate with an inferiority complex. You sit there about six months and you wonder how the hell you got there. And after that, you wonder how the rest of them got there."

## Truman Gives Notice He Would Use A-Bomb Again

### Hopes Pact Will Make It Unnecessary

*By United Press*

WASHINGTON, April 7.—Potential enemies of the United States were on notice today that President Truman would not hesitate to use the atom bomb again if he believed the welfare of the democracies was at stake.

But the President solemnly told a gathering of congressmen: "I hope and pray that that will never be necessary."

He recalled in a speech last night that soon after he became President in 1945, he was called upon to authorize use of the atom bomb against two Japanese cities, Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

**Looks to Atlantic Pact**

"Now I believe," he said, "that we are in a position where we will never have to make that decision again. But if it has to be made for the welfare of the United States, and the democracies of the world are at stake, I wouldn't hestitate to make it again.'

Mr. Truman said he hopes the North Atlantic Security Pact "is a step that will prevent our having to make a decision of that sort."

The dinner was arranged by the Democratic National Committee in an attempt to establish closer relations between the White House and freshmen Democrats in Congress. The 81st Congress has been somewhat cool thus far on the President's legislative program.

But Mr. Truman made no direct references in his off-the-cuff speech to political issues. After a few humorous remarks about the days when he was a newcomer in Congress he spoke seriously of the U. S. role in world affairs.

**Recalls Decision**

"The welfare of the world is now our responsibility," he said. "Whether we like it or not, we have been forced into that position by two world wars, both of which could have been avoided if we had been willing to assume the place which God Almighty intended us to assume back in 1918."

He said the United States has risen to its responsibilities in a manner unparalleled in history. This country, he said, has "offered to surrender the most powerful thing we have, if the world will come in and set up a control of that weapon which will prevent its use for the destruction of mankind."

Mr. Truman said he decided to use the atom bomb in the war against Japan not only because it would save the lives of 200,000 American servicemen but because "some three or four hundred thousands of the enemy would be saved by making that decision."

## V-2 Shoot Cancelled

The V-2 rocket shoot, scheduled for today at the White Sands Proving Grounds, was cancelled because of cloudy weather.

# Woman Tells of Killing 140 Rattlesnakes In Battle of Horror on Farm in Colorado

## Mrs. Kate Garner, Registered Nurse, Later Trapped Serpents for Venom

By CAL COWAN

Mrs. Kate Garner, El Paso registered nurse, remembers when she killed 140 rattlesnakes in a two-hour battle. Hard to believe? Mrs. Garner has signed affidavits to back up her story, as well as numerous newspaper and magazine clippings and pictures resulting from her nightmarish exploit near Fort Lupton, Colorado.

Not only did she emerge unbitten, but also she saved her three-year-old son, Ernest, who helplessly witnessed the battle.

The incident won for her the namesake of "Rattlesnake Kate," and she is proud of it.

**A Mission in Life**

Out of her harrowing experience came a mission in life for Mrs. Garner. She became interested in cancer research, and collected venom from the fangs of hundreds of rattlesnakes. The venom has been used by scientists in experiments to discover a cure for the disease.

A nurse for the last 30 years, Mrs. Garner at present is devoting her time to the care and treatment of patients suffering from cancer. During the last war, she served with the Red Cross in the Pacific Theater. Since returning from overseas, she has followed her profession in El Paso.

"I'm still terrified when I think about it," she said, recalling that horrible October day of 1925. Apparently the rattlers were massing to go into hibernation.

Mrs. Garner had become accustomed to finding rattlesnakes on her Colorado farm. A crack shot with a rifle, she had killed many of them.

It all began when she started out to hunt ducks. She was accompanied by her young son, who was riding on a pony. Nearing the lake, about a mile and a half from home, she heard a warning sound.

"Ten feet away in the brush was a large rattler, coiled and ready to strike," Mrs. Garner said. "I hastily stepped back to the horse, lifted my rifle from the saddle and shot the snake.

**Another and Another**

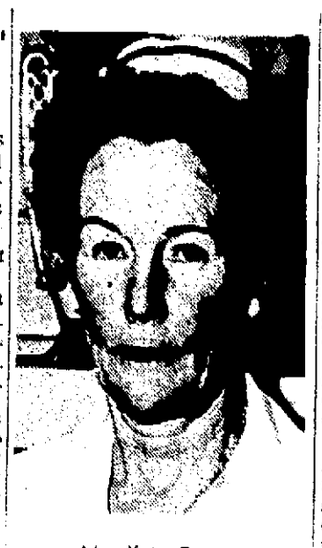
"Almost immediately another rattler slid out from the brush. Then another. I fired three times, killing three snakes. But I had stirred up a nest of them. Soon I saw about 20 snakes crawling near me."

Fearful that she would use up all her ammunition, she looked around for a stick to use as a club. She plucked up a wooden stake which bore a sign with the ironic words: "No Hunting—Keep Out."

As she turned around, Mrs. Garner related, snake eyes shone in all directions. She lashed out with her club, crushing heads left and right.

A mass of dying snakes soon lay all around her.

"I was frantic that they would


Mrs. Kate Garner

frighten the horse, and cause him to rear up and throw Ernie into the snakes," Mrs. Garner said. "I don't know where I got the strength to beat them off for two hours."

On the verge of exhaustion, she said she managed to clear a path to the horse and her son. Running up beside them, she led them to safety, leaving behind the wriggling reptiles.

Later, accompanied by neighbors, Mrs. Garner returned to the scene. The dead snakes were strung up in rows and a count showed there was 140.

Mrs. Garner's feat made her the

## Saved Son, Self From Poison Fangs

center of attention. She sold many of the skins from the dead rattlesnakes to souvenir hunters, she said.

She used 53 of the skins to make a dress. Mrs. Garner claims it is the only one of its kind in existence. The dress today is in a vault in her home town, she said.

"A few years ago I refused an offer of $2000 for the dress from the Smithsonian Institution," Mrs. Garner said.

The experience did not stop Mrs. Garner from going after and exterminating scores of rattlesnakes.

**Venom for Research**

"The Cancer Research Institute at Los Angeles asked me to supply them with venom from rattlesnakes," she explained. "Considerable experiments have been made with this poison, which has been mixed with other chemicals in the search of a cure for cancer."

By using a long pole with a looped wire at one end, Mrs. Garner said she trapped hundreds of snakes. The reptiles afterwards sank their fangs into sponges, which in turn were sealed and sent to laboratories in Los Angeles, where the venom was extracted.

A graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital in Denver, Mrs. Garner also took a course in taxidermy at Northwestern University. She has a fine collection of mounted snake specimens, as well as a variety of animals at her home, which she has since turned over to her son, Ernest, now 27, World War II veteran.

## Builds German Party on Nazis' Ashes

*By United Press*

FRANKFURT, April 7.—Allied intelligence reports showed today that a wounded ex-Communist has built a super-nationalist German political party on the ashes of Nazism.

Town-by-town, county-by-county, the rightist DRP rises to denounce the occupation powers and practically everything un-German.

The standard attraction at party rallies is the singing of "Deutschland Uber Alles." The decorations are red, white and black, the old Nazi colors. The chief speaker appears in a costume that includes black riding breeches and mirror-polished black boots.

**Use Hitler Trappings**

And, according to Allied intelligence reports, the party has all the trappings and many of the principles of Adolf Hitler's National Socialism.

Leader of the growing movement is Werner Wolfgang Falck, a 25-year-old Goettingen University student. Severely wounded during the war, in which he won a battlefield commission, Falck leans heavily on a cane during what Allied officials call his "nationalistic" tirades.

An ex-Communist who opposes everything non-German, Falck pals around with former Nazi SS (Elite Guard) officers and says the only persons worthy of governing Germany today are "those who served their fatherland as soldiers at the front."

**Blossoms in Saxony**

The party has blossomed in the backwoods of Lower Saxony in the British zone, near the Russian zonal border. Its "capital" is Wolfsburg, the model town of 20,000 that Hitler ordered built a decade ago to house workers of the Volkswagen (People's Car) factory.

It has carved out a toehold in about 30 counties of the British zone. Still not ready to operate in wider fields, it has chosen to build its strength post-by-post, intelligence officials said.

Party workers, who cramp themselves into the living room of a ground-floor apartment on Wolfsburg's Schiller Strasse, claim that although National Socialism had many good points, the DRP differs in some ways.

It has no anti-Semitic policy and it does not believe in Hitler's Der Fuehrer "leadership" principle, party workers say.

They also say that "big" Nazis—classes one through three under the denazification laws—are barred from the DRP. According to denazification court records, this rule would keep out about 14 per cent of the old Nazis out of the new party.

**WEIZMANN SAILS FOR U. S.**

*By International News Service*

TEL AVIV, April 7. — Israeli President Dr. Chaim Weizmann left Tel Aviv for the United States today.

## Santa Fe to Open In Three Weeks

*By Associated Press*

AMARILLO, April 7.—Santa Fe train service between El Paso and Albuquerque will probably be resumed in about three weeks, officials say.

A stretch of track 37 miles south of Socorro, N. M., is being rebuilt. It was weakened by water between the Rio Grande and Elephant Butte lake. A strip of track about 400 feet long is involved.

Two locomotives turned over on the stretch recently. Contractors are now raising the grade and building dykes between the river and lake.

## One-Act Plays Will Open High School League Contests

### District Students In Annual Competition

The Interscholastic High School district meet will open for three days at 7 p. m. today in the El Paso High School auditorium with a one-act play contests. Pupils of Austin, Bowie, El Paso and Ysleta High Schools will participate in all events.

Superintendent J. M. Hanks of Ysleta is director general of the meet which will comprise eight scholastic and two athletic contests.

W. W. Wimberly assisted by Keith Appleby will direct the one-act play contest. In tomorrow's events in El Paso High School, C. R. Smith will direct debate; Frank Pollitt will have charge of declamation; and Mrs. Vera Michael will direct the extemporaneous speech contest.

Saturday events will start at 9 a. m. in El Paso High School with the exception of slide rule and spelling contests which will be held in Bowie High School. They include debate finals, C. R. Smith, director; declamation for grade divisions, Frank Pollitt, director, ready-writers, Mrs. M. Patterson, director; slide rule, Mrs. Maggie Randel, director; number sense, Mrs. E. Hansen, director; and spelling, Miss L. Daniel, director.

Tennis and track and field events will be held at Lamar School and Ysleta High School under the direction of R. L. Springer and Clyde Wafer on Saturday morning.

Cups and trophies will be awarded to the winning schools in these contests. The school winning a cup or trophy three times gains permanent possession of it.

## General Hutchison Will Address Graduates

Brig. Gen. D. W. Hutchison, commanding general of Biggs Air Base, left for Mather Air Base, Sacramento, Calif., where he will address the graduating class of the Air Forces Bombardment School.

The Bombardment School at Mather trains one man to fill positions formerly requiring two or three men, that of navigator-bombardier-radar observer. The training includes navigation, and bombardment visually or by electronic aids, both day and night.

Officer students are drawn from all Air Force bases, including Biggs.