

Cities Join In Celebration of Open Highway

Sepulveda Is Completed Between National and Washington Boulevards

The completion of the paving of Sepulveda boulevard between Sunset and Ventura boulevards will soon be announced officially. Consequently, the communities affected are planning a great celebration to be held probably the first week of September or the first week in October.

The several Chambers of Commerce and other civic groups will hold an initial conference to lay out plans on Friday, August 9, at 3 p. m. at the office of the West Los Angeles division, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, 11016 Santa Monica boulevard.

The paving of the southern section of Sepulveda boulevard be-

Airmail Closes Later At Lomita

Airmail out of the Lomita post-office will close 15 minutes later in the afternoon, according to an announcement by Postmaster Bleda Paddock, starting this week. Mails will close at 4:30 p. m. instead of at 4:15 as previously. The later arrival of a mail train, at 5:15 instead of 5 o'clock is the reason for the change.

between National and Washington boulevards is entirely completed with the exception of the paving across the Pacific Electric tracks at Venice boulevard.

The paving from Ventura boulevard to the tunnel has been finished and now the work is going on from that point to Sunset boulevard.

The communities which will take part in the plans for the celebration and Van Nuys and other San Fernando valley points, West Los Angeles, Culver City, El Segundo, Inglewood, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Torrance, San Pedro, Long Beach and Wilmington.

News From Washington

By Your Congressman
CHARLES J. GOLDEN

The investigation of the holding companies' lobby, currently referred to as the "Power Trust," remains the major topic of interest in Washington. Further investigation of the thousands of telegrams that poured in on the members of Congress elicits the startling information that

even the names of the dead were used as signatures to telegrams. So Harlan county, Kentucky, that enjoys the distinction of voting names of the lamented, has a rival in the holding companies' lobby, that uses the voice of those that are under the sod to further their campaign against government regulation. Much has been said by the so-called Power Trust in behalf of the widows and orphans and their investments, but in their zeal in raising the voices of the dead, they have considerably over-stopped proper procedure and the public is obtaining further evidence of their misdeeds.

The Power Trust lobby maintained its headquarters in the Maxwell one of the swankiest hotels in Washington. It became a popular gathering place and there are rumors of dinners, cigars, sparkling liquors, and even yacht trips on the Potomac. One of the members has been entangled in the web of mystery and intrigue by accepting a cigar box wrapped in newspaper. This member very emphatically declares that it contained some books, but Senator Black of the Senate investigating committee asked numerous questions as to the contents of this box and the accused member is having a heck of a time to explain, innocent or guilty, the cigar box episode has aroused intense interest as only a small portion of the million dollar alms fund has been accounted for.

Since Sam Rayburn introduced the bill for the regulation of holding companies and led the fight on the floor of the House, he has been the center of the storm from its beginning. The power companies of Texas sent a number of lobbyists to Washington to carry on the campaign against the Rayburn bill. A few Texans, who voted against their colleague, Mr. Rayburn, are on a hot spot and making many denials of any favors received from the power lobby.

The Texas delegation not only occupies more important chairmanships than any other state, but also has a very colorful and aggressive group among the mem-

bers of the House. You frequently find some of them in the cloak room razing each other on their positions and votes on the floor. Some of them voted against Sam Rayburn during the hard fight he made for his bill. Facing a tremendous opposition, Sam was sober but continued serene throughout the verbal tempest, but this week, after the Senate committee had opened up some interesting stories of the tactics of the lobby, Mr. Rayburn may be seen daily in the cloak room with a broad smile and harpooning his colleagues who voted against him. Listening to the sharp cuts of irony and sarcasm, one would expect to see these two-flated Texans smashing each other at some of the smiting and stinging remarks, but the Texas delegation possesses an immense fund of good humor and they take it on the chin like good sports and good fellows, but men sometimes get their "blocks" knocked off for saying far less on the street.

The House members are merciless in their criticisms of each other. Just now, the House members are accusing the House investigating committee of permitting the Senate investigating committee with running away with the show. In the cloak rooms the members make a business of making cutting remarks to the members at every opportunity, and at every retort there is usually a hot comeback and the war goes on constantly. Two new words have been coined in the cloak room. Congressman Shannon, of Missouri, on one occasion in the last Congress, when the battle was hot, on a roll call answered "Present" so the members that are neutral are stigmatized as "Shannonized." Brewster of Maine who is accused of running out on the administration bill, has called forth the reproach on the members who failed to vote as being "Brewsterized." So if you could not make up your mind you are "Shannonized" and if you ducked, you are "Brewsterized."

The past week has been occupied by a discussion of the whiskey and tobacco bills. The whiskey contest was apparently a battle between the barrels and the bottles. Under the old law, passed shortly after the repeal of the 18th Amendment, the use of bottles was used by the administration, because it was believed that it would promote the sale of authorized liquor and would prevent bootlegging. It was thought that the buyer of liquor would be assured that he was obtaining liquor in the original package from the distillery.

Now the committee on ways and means has decided that the old time barrel and keg should be returned to pristine glory. The whiskey trust is accused of controlling the bottling industry and thereby discriminating against the independent distillery. Also the co-operation business has suffered greatly from the barrel being excluded from the business, so the new bill as passed by the House permits the use of the keg and barrel, with the presumption that it will thwart the whiskey trust, and thereby contribute to the elimination of the bootlegger.

One of the members, who assumed to be an authority on the subject, stated that it takes but 40 cents to make the best gallon of whiskey that can be made. To carry it for four years in a barrel, the time required to give it proper age, its cost is but 50 cents per gallon. It is charged that the whiskey trust is selling four-year-old whiskey for \$72 a case, which is \$24 per gallon wholesale. This member of Congress charges that the whiskey trust is holding up the price,

thereby encouraging the bootlegger. A loud appeal was made for the man who makes staves and lives at the forks of the creek. According to the information, he is being oppressed and trodden on by the whiskey trust which controls the bottling and is opposed to the old fashioned barrel. The exclusion of the barrel was made by a ruling of the treasury department because of the uncertain language of the former bill, so the committee on ways and means has made the new law more explicit and returned the barrel to its old time honor. The measure has now gone over to the Senate where it will receive further tinkering, and although prohibition is a dream of the past, its echoes are frequently heard on the floors of Congress.

The tobacco bill was another battle of fust, feathers and furor. The bill passed by the House provides for the grading of the product of the tobacco grower by the federal government. Some of the members from the tobacco growing states vigorously opposed any such inspection.

The reason for this grading of tobacco by government officials grew out of the abuse of the grading system in the warehouses of the tobacco growing districts. It appears to be a custom when the tobacco is so stored, to sell each grower's product at an auction sale to the highest bidder. Since the buyer was the judge of the grade of tobacco, the grower had no protection. It is claimed that on many occasions, high grade tobacco was auctioned off as a poor grade of tobacco, purchased by speculators who immediately resold it at a big profit, thereby depriving the grower of a considerable part of the price he was entitled to obtain for his product. In order to correct this abuse, the new bill proposes that the federal agents shall grade each farmer's tobacco and properly label it, so that he will obtain a proper price, thereby eliminating the speculation and the warehouse men, who have been obtaining their incomes off of the labors of the grower.

An example was given of a farmer of North Carolina who sold 154 pounds of his tobacco and which was bid off at 12 cents per pound. The purchaser was a speculator, who resold the same 154 pounds for 22 cents per pound. In this case the speculator's gross profit was \$15.40 for a few minutes of his time, while the farmer, who had planted and hoed and weeded and sowed for a whole season, received \$1.85 for his work. The number of instances were given of the advantages that are taken of the tobacco grower because he has no way of grading his product before it is sold under the warehouse system.

One of the humorous sides of this debate was the accusation that some of the "popular" brands of mink tobacco contain a very large proportion of alfalfa. One of the Nebraska members, who boasted that his district produces the finest alfalfa in the world, stated that the product of his state was being discriminated against because the tobacco companies in their advertisements never gave Nebraska credit for the high type of alfalfa used. Of course this Nebraska member is not familiar with the high grade of alfalfa that is raised in Southern California.

The naval affairs committee has returned from California with high praises for his home state. They report it was a grand parade from the first until the last. All of the delegation are singing praises of San Diego, Long Beach, San Pedro and San Francisco. In addition, they greatly enjoyed the luncheon at the movie studio at Culver City and also the rodeo at Salinas. They were all sold on California, but they were a weary bunch when they got back to Washington.

The delegation from the state of Washington has a very happy customer meeting once each week for a dinner, in which the senators and representatives join. The entire state group study and discuss the legislation that affects their state. It is one of the best examples of team work in Congress. It would be a very happy custom for the California delegation.

Church Marks 110th Year INDEPENDENCE, Mo. (U.P.)—Members of the Six Mile Baptist church celebrated the church's 110th anniversary with a homecoming and basket dinner. Several former pastors attended.

Old Hotel Key Returned HANFORD, Calif. (U.P.)—After an absence of more than 20 years, an old key bearing a leather tag from the famous Esrey Hotel has been returned. Meanwhile the old landmark was destroyed by fire and a modern hostelry built on the site.

Indian Stone Axe Found CHEYENNE, Wyo. (U.P.)—A perfectly chiseled stone axe of the type used by Indians as weapons and for scraping hides was found by Jim Horiskey on a fishing trip recently. The relic was believed to have been used before the first white man crossed the continent.

Odd Accident Injures Driver PEABODY, Mass. (U.P.)—Charles Murphy, 28-year-old milk truck driver, suffered a brain concussion and other injuries when his truck struck a rut in the road. Several cases of milk bounced in the air and struck him on the head.



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