

# Row Continues Over Assembly Rump Session

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR  
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO—The state of utter confusion and uncertainty into which the actions of the legislature has thrown the state Capitol in the last few days has cast a lot of doubt on the wisdom of the people in 1966 when they voted Proposition 1A.

This change in the basic law of California, which was recommended by the constitutional revision commission, provided the vehicle for the legislative fiasco which resulted in adjourn-

ment of the state senate, and the subsequent defiance of this action by the assembly.

The situation goes a lot deeper than a mere battle between Democratic legislative leaders in the two houses. The Republicans have labeled it so by their announcement of a boycott of the Democrats in the assembly.

While no banners or pickets have appeared, and while the Members of both parties still get together for noon toddies and luncheons at Poseys, the Capitol's prim-

ary bistro, the feeling is becoming more apparent that the people of the state have been let down by the legislative hiatus, both financially and morally as far as responsibility is concerned.

Financially, California's taxpayers shelled out some \$7,500 a day to continue sessions of the assembly which at best are open to question as to their legality, and which could have been avoided had Speaker Jesse M. Unruh, Democrat of Los Angeles, acquiesced to a procedure which merely would

have postponed actions on certain measures.

Republican leadership in the assembly recognized this fact as declaring the boycott, which means they aren't attending what amounts to the rump sessions. They are, a caucus leader said, observing the provisions of the state constitution, and are of the opinion the legislative session has been brought to a close by ukase of the acting governor. Further, the caucus brought out the fact that all of the legislators are

sworn to uphold the provisions of the constitution, and indicated they would be violating their oaths of office if they continued to attend.

The constitutional revision commission in drawing up the revisions, could not have had any idea as to the situation it was going to lead to, but that is beside the point, the vehicle for the confusion is in the constitution and there is no assurance that the same situation may not arise again unless steps are taken to correct the loophole.

It is not likely that any such steps will be forthcoming from the legislature, such as submitting to the people a provision for again limiting legislative sessions to a given number of days during the year, an action which would wipe out the power of the governor to interfere with the actions of the legislative branch of government.

Meanwhile, it will take some time to determine the exact status of the position in which the legislature finds itself, and the time will

involve, presumably, the entry of another branch of government into the situation. This will be the judicial, which at this point will be expected eventually to rule on the legality of the disagreement.

While the controversy drones on and on, the public will continue to bear the costs, as the public usually does in the case of misjudgments of government, whether they be in the legislative, executive, or judicial branches.

Your Right to Know Is the Key to All Your Liberties

## -Comment and Opinion-

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 1968

### A Program for Jobs

Democrats and Republicans alike have cooperated during the 1968 session of the legislature to put together a bi-partisan job development and training program which is nearing fruition at the present time as a "landmark" program which may result in some solutions of the urban problems faced by the state.

The program is the product of some 18 months of cooperative effort between the job training and placement council, the legislature, the administration and private business.

Under the leadership of Lt. Gov. Robert Finch, the program hopefully focuses the total resources of the community on the problem of job development and training in so-called economically disadvantaged areas.

The goal is to make capital and management assistance available for economic development of these areas, assure that training is available for people so jobs may be filled adequately; make available tax incentives for businesses to hire the disadvantaged; provide incentive for financial institutions to participate in the program through placement of state surplus money in banks, and tighten up laws against discrimination in apprenticeship program.

This bi-partisan program could be one of the outstanding achievements of the 1968 legislature, provided the purposes are carried out, and some definite results are shown on the effectiveness of the legislation.

On the other hand, the program could turn out to be a major flop of

the administration if it is allowed to become merely a paper program resulting in the creation of merely another big bureaucracy.

Only time will give the answer, but at least giving the program a real opportunity to work is better than no program at all.—HCM

### 'Free' Money Bid

By its action this week, the City Council gave all indications that it is determined to go ahead with plans for a large regional park here, spurred on with the thought of getting more "free" money from Uncle Sam to offset part of the costs.

Decision of the councilmen to proceed with the application for the funds through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is being bitterly opposed by a large number of Torrance residents. Many of them are the same people who successfully backed last spring's campaigns to throw out the city's Uniform Housing Code and three incumbent councilmen in an effort to put a halt to the inroads of federal projects in the city.

Several questions about the huge park project go unanswered, but one keeps recurring when the topic is discussed: Does Torrance really need a huge regional park, and would Torrance's taxpayers get value received for the many million of dollars it will cost them? The Press-Herald doubts it.

Torrance needs another big urban development program like Richmond needed Grant.

### Here's My Battery For The Big Game



ROYCE BRIER

## Demo Platform Will Need LBJ's Stamp of Approval

In a department called "Washington Whispers," U.S. News and World Report says Vice President Humphrey is becoming "acutely uncomfortable" owing to moves of President Johnson to control writing of the Democratic Party platform.

Should Mr. Humphrey be nominated by the convention this month, he would in theory be bound by such a platform, though party nominees have often de-emphasized planks in a platform, and even disregarded them when too restrictive.

The President could not be expected publicly to concede he is working on the platform, though it would be strange if he were not. He is the head of his party while he remains in office. He could abdicate this leadership once the party offers another candidate, but abdication would be strange, too.

He could perhaps offer to collaborate with a nominee in platform-making, but here again a hitch appears. Mr. Johnson is not a good collaborator in matters he deems

within his province, and even if he made the offer, the nominee, whoever he may be, would be placed under strain in the basic

### Opinions on Affairs of the World

principles of his candidacy, and in his conduct in office if elected.

Hence, Mr. Humphrey is in an embarrassing position should Mr. Johnson press him on fundamental party principles, and there is potential for a clash of wills.

The Vice President has been staunch in his loyalty to the philosophy and acts of the Johnson Administration, and this loyalty has become more urgent since his principal opponent for the nomination, Senator Eugene McCarthy, is vocal in opposing the primary tenets of the Administration.

This "more of the same," which has been the monotonous Johnson Administration's solution for the southeast Asian problem, has been steadily losing ground

for two years, and there are signs an overwhelming segment of the people will buy it from a new nominee.

Yet what can Mr. Johnson do? All Administrations, and all Presidents personally, are chained to the concept that their course of action has been wise. A course of action may have failed, but a President and his men cannot concede this directly. The late historian-philosopher James Harvey Robinson called this the "My watch is right and yours is wrong" compulsion.

Last fall there was a political delusion going around that the Vietnam war either "must" not, or "would" not, become an issue in the 1968 campaign. Doubtless Mr. Johnson would have liked to believe it, but the circumstance of his decision not to seek another term, indicated he did not believe it. In any case, it was something like advising you to disregard a flat tire, and drive on as if nothing had happened.

The time has arrived when nobody can disregard the Vietnam war, and the philosophy behind it, as a paramount issue in this election year. How Mr. Humphrey, or any other candidate, will meet this reality, is not for a non-political column, even as a guess.

### Morning Report:

Like everything else, we get peace these days on the installment plan.

As the other day, Cairo sources reported that Egypt will not be ready for another war with Israel until 1970. That's about a year and a half away. And everybody is happy. So you're worrying about China? Forget it. All the experts assure us that Peking will not be able to send atom-tipped missiles to the West Coast until 1975.

There was a time—long, long ago—before World War II, when responsible people in high places spoke, without blushing, of everlasting world peace. There was even an official treaty signed abolishing war forever. But of course, that was the day when most people bought things outright and expected to keep them forever.

Abe Mellinkoff

HERB CAEN SAYS:

## His Nomination For 'Chutzpah'

Scoops du jour: A falling-don scion who went through his first inherited million (but has another coming in a few years), is on the lam in Mexico, ducking a \$37,000 tax rap. Meanwhile, in a strong bid for the Chutzpah Award, he is suing his ex-wife, who lives in San Francisco, for an \$87,000 slice of the money she has earned since their separation, claiming community property! This guy is bananas. . . . Voice on the phone to the Fairmont the other day: "Let me speak to God." Operator: "Uh—Mr. Swig is out of town." Voice: "No-no, I mean Godfrey Cambridge! . . . Ronald Reagan's limousine was parked for two hours in the bus zone outside UC Medical Center and the way my phone lit up with calls from Irates, you'd have thought it was the end of the world. Nobody's cool these days? . . . Black humor dept.: The Old Cock & Bull on Union Street now has an Alfred Packer Dining Room, named in honor of the only American (check me on this) convicted of cannibalism. He ate five Democrats one cold winter in Colorado, and then had the misfortune of facing a judge who was also a Democrat. The meat Packer was hung.

Sign of the week (on a local suburban women's shop): "Closed for pregnancy. For more information see next door." A friend of mine looked at the next door, but reports it looked just like any other door to him.

Slanguage note: Dorothy Friend, who has lived in England the past few years, returned to town, was stricken with hepatitis, and ended up in a hospital—where something happened that finally made her feel at home. After she'd awakened from a nap, her nurse told her: "There was a phone call for you while you were asleep." Thinking it might have been from her son, a student at Oxford, Dorothy asked anxiously: "Was it from abroad?" "No ma'am," bedpanned the nurse, "it was a man."

Cornfetti: Pan American's feisty stewardesses seem to have made their point (they threatened to strike unless their drab uniforms—they call 'em "Mother Hubbards"—were replaced with something more miniskirted and swinging, like the OTHER stewes wear); the airline now has half a dozen designers submitting sketches with hemlines up, up and awaaaay. . . . The Rev. William Power Clancey Jr., vicar of St. Jude the Apostle in Cupertino, visited his dentist, Dr. Akiharu Shishido, for the first time in a long time. After an extensive peek, accompanied by much headshaking, Dr. Shishido announced: "Father, before I am through with you, you will be speaking Japanese fluently!" . . . Cecil Fullilove, the Immigration chief here, took a friend from Detroit, Ralph Corbett, to the top of Twin Peaks to see the View—and all they saw was fog. Back in Detroit, Ralph wrote to Cecil: "San Francisco IS pretty. I put wax paper on my front windows and now I get the same view." . . . That famed criminal lawyer dashed into Erik Bauer's antique restoring shop on Union Street to have the lid of his attache case repaired, and when he got it back, he said with typical flourish: "Erik, I won't embarrass you by even ASKING the price, but if you ever murder anyone —" And off he went.

It's a whole new world: Mrs. Gordon Needham of Pleasant Hill, Calif., donated a kidney to Howard Smith of Lafayette in a highly successful transplant at UC Medical Center—but that's not all. Smith was fired from his job the first of the month, and Mrs. Needham is trying to find him a new one. "After all," she says spunkily, "I have a vested interest in him—he's wearing my kidney." "She's a wonderful woman," says Smith. "You might say I have her under my skin."

Infinites: "Why don'tcha pick on somebody yer own size?" complained this obnoxious little skunk to Lucky Lucchesi, Enrico Banducci's bodyguard, so Lucky got down on his knees and belted the gay all the way across Broadway to Coke Infante's, where Coke was pleased to belt him back. Fortunately, the light was green.

Awrk: Today's pusillanimous punster is Phill Laursen of San Jose, Calif., who made arrangement to leave his dog with the neighbors while he and his wife pulled their trailer to Yosemite. "To our surprise," he reports, "when we went to use the trailer's bathroom, out bounded our dog. We thought he was back home, but all 'the time he was just a throne's stowaway!" (Applause.)

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### J. EDGAR HOOVER REPORTS

## Our Society 'Not Sick' FBI Chief Tells Police

By J. EDGAR HOOVER

America is not a sick society. Let us stop condemning our whole populace for the sins of a few. Let us stop this nonsense of self-reproach and self-ridicule and throw off the guilty complex which threatens to envelop our country. When he face adversities and tragedies, let us do so with resolute confidence, avoid panic, and reserve judgment until all the facts are known.

Historically, Americans are doers, no worriers. No country has ever done, or is doing, more for its own underprivileged citizens and for the unfortunate people of the world than the United States. Our record speaks for itself. We have no reason to be ashamed; indeed, we have much to be proud of. This is not to say that our society is infallible and has no problems. We do make mistakes, and we do have many great problems. But they are not insurmountable if we do not despair.

Some of our difficulty today arises from the fact that too much attention is given to various dissident elements which have a lot of noisy energy but little purpose. Many of them are complaining about conditions which they helped to create. Now, they want our whole society to plead guilty to mass ineptness. This is ridiculous.

A noted columnist, commenting recently on the guilt complex sweeping our country, said, "I am tired of the hangdog American . . . a guy who lives in the greatest country on earth and

feels he has to apologize for his own existence. . . . The hangdog American is in danger of losing the fierce independence and self-pride of his pioneering ancestors. He is not only capitulating to his harping critics—he is becoming his own worst critic by doubting or distrusting his own obvious virtues: courage, ingenuity, loyalty, generosity, idealism. That is the worst thing that can happen to any man—to lose faith in himself."

To me, this makes sense. Courage, ability, and pride are hallmarks of success in any endeavor. A defeatist attitude is seldom associated with a leader. America is a world leader in the cause of justice, liberty, and the dignity of man. We have no reason to act or think as losers or second-rate citizens.

It is time for Americans to shed their apologetic demeanor and stop belittling themselves. The hard-working, tax-paying, law-abiding people of this country are responsible for its growth and development. They provide the strength and resources which move our country forward. They aspire to the goals, principles, and ideals which are meaningful to all people. It is wrong to malign and accuse this vast group every time a crisis develops.

No, our society is NOT sick. But, I suggest we check the pulse of the self-styled diagnosticians who see a social malady from every soapbox.—Reprinted from the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin for August.