

Major Reshuffling Expected in New Legislature

By HENRY C. MACARTHUR
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO — Major changes in the make-up of the California assembly are scheduled to be forthcoming when that house of the legislature meets Jan. 6 for the 1969 session.

It is reasonably well established at the present time that Robert Monagan, R-Tracy, will succeed Jesse Unruh, D-Los Angeles, as speaker of the house, by reason of the slim, single vote majority of the Republicans.

Unruh now is reported to

be working out the details of turning his extensive establishment, which he has built up during the past eight years, over to his prospective successor.

And it is also reported the skids are greased for Charles Conrad, R-Hollywood, to step into the spot of speaker pro-tem, which has been held by Carlos Bee, D-Hayward. Conrad, to all intents and purposes, has eased out Robert Badham, R-Orange County, for this important post.

There are other relatively less important posts to

be filled by the Republicans such as floor leader and chairman of the Republican caucus, which still are in debate. Don Mulford, R-Oakland, has served as caucus chairman and hopes to retain the post. The matter of a floor leader has not been settled, but the name of Paul Priolo, R-Santa Monica, has been mentioned either for that post or chairman of the caucus.

It will be up to Monagan to reshuffle the assembly committees when he is elected speaker. Obviously, the new speaker, confronted

with only the single vote majority, will retain or appoint some Democrats to committee chairmanships, as Unruh has in the past. Just how many is a matter of speculation at the present time, but it is certain chairmanships of the choice spots will be handed to the victorious Republicans, as these choice spots regulate the operation of the assembly, and the carrying out of the Republican program.

Chairmanship of the rules committee, a key group in the assembly administration, probably will go to Carl

Britschgi, R-San Mateo, although another Republican, Ray Johnson, R-Chico, who has served the committee faithfully and well, is another under consideration. Britschgi, however, is the vice-chairman of rules at the present time.

The ways and means committee, which has the controlling power over the state budget, expected to reach \$6 billion for the next fiscal year, may go to Frank Lanterman, R-LaCanada. Lanterman is a serious-minded legislator, addicted to economy in government, and be-

sides, he is the choice of the governor's office for this important post.

Victor V. Veysey, R-Brawley, has been mentioned prominently for chairmanship of education, which is now held by LeRoy Greene, D-Sacramento. Veysey is held to be a legislator who works well with the educationists, but is not apt to succumb to their inflated theories which eventually work to the disadvantage of the taxpayers of the state.

Government organization is another committee which will need a new chairman.

Lester McMillan, D-Los Angeles, was defeated, and the post he held as chairman for some years is vacant. Patrick McGee, R-Los Angeles, has been mentioned prominently for this chairmanship.

Carley Porter, D-Compton, probably will retain the water committee, as he is an outstanding authority on the subject. Pete Hayes, R-Long Beach, is mentioned as successor to John Francis Foran, D-San Francisco, for transportation and commerce.

Your Right to Know Is the Key to All Your Liberties

-Comment and Opinion-

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1968

The Welfare Boondoggle

Utter disregard of taxpayer burdens and taxpayer money is evidenced in the Washington, D.C. order of Wilbur Cohen, secretary of health, education and welfare, which requires the states to dispense millions of dollars to non-workers in the country on a "simple statement of need."

This disregard in fact is so flamboyant that Spencer Williams, secretary for human relations in California, made a trip to Washington to enter a formal protest to the order, which if it stands, would go into effect next July 1.

The new regulation would displace what Williams says is the "present comprehensive system of eligibility determination" now in effect in California.

His protest includes "opposition not only to the date for implementation of the new regulations, but also the restrictions imposed on checking for eligibility for aid."

And in addition, the California administration will insist that no regulations be adopted until procedures can be developed and tested before implementation is required.

"We believe," Williams said, "that a thorough check of eligibility is essential to businesslike management of the program."

"Our effort is to tighten up welfare administration, not to relax it."

Further, he said the federal gov-

ernment should not restrict the state's authority to determine how and when they investigate applications for aid.

Williams termed the order "the dying gasp" of the federal administration in Washington.

It is somewhat peculiar that such an order should emanate from the federal government in a time when taxpayers throughout the nation slowly are buckling under the pressure for more government money, but it is indicative of the give-away policies of the federal government, which in late years appears to have come to the conclusion that welfare is a right rather than an attempt to aid unfortunates who happen to be in real need of financial assistance.

The program of the Reagan administration for the past two years has been to finish this needed aid, and clamp down on those who make a profession out of living off government, which in late years appears to have come to the conclusion that welfare is a right rather than an attempt to aid unfortunates who happen to be in real need of financial assistance.

The program of the Reagan administration for the past two years has been to furnish this needed aid, and clamp down on those who make a profession out of living off government money. It is then, small wonder that the California administration is concerned.—HCM

FROM THE MAILBOX

Reports He Was Rebuffed With Question for Board

Editor, Press-Herald:

As a taxpaying citizen of the City of Torrance, I am very upset with our present Board of Education.

I attended the board meeting on Nov. 18 at South High School and waited four hours so that I would have an opportunity to ask the board a question. The ques-

tion I asked the board was, "What rank or position in the State of California does the Torrance Unified School District hold in regard to the reading ability of the students?"

The board president did not wish to answer my question, even though Dr. Hull volunteered to answer it. In-

stead I was told to read the minutes of the last meeting as it had been on that agenda.

This attitude by an elected body that is spending more than 25 million dollars of Torrance taxpayer money is unbelievable and is the very thing that destroys the public confidence at a time it is needed most.

I would suggest that all interested citizens attend the upcoming Torrance Unified School District board meetings that will be held at the various high schools in Torrance within the next few months.

BILL ROBERTS

Special Thanks From Goodwill

Editor, Press-Herald:

While Thanksgiving is uppermost in the thoughts of many, we here at Goodwill wish to place our particular emphasis upon Thanks-for-giving.

Your interest this past year has helped develop an increased public understanding of the growing program of rehabilitation. You have also helped to give people an awareness of local programs and facilities for this purpose.

THOBURN SPEICHER
Community Relations

Who's the Fourth Astronaut?



ROYCE BRIER

Nixon Finds Interregnum Is Loaded with Dangers

We are now in the interregnum, the period between governments, and it will continue for about 10 weeks. The term originally described situations in which a monarch died without an immediate succession, but it is also applicable to the republican form.

It is a touchy situation, and we don't encounter it every four years. There is no interregnum when a President dies and a vice-president immediately succeeds, nor when a President is re-elected after a first term.

Other American interregnums have occurred in a quiet time, hence this is the most critical one we have known. We hope to escape any major difficulty before the inauguration Jan. 20 but minor difficulties will accumulate.

President-elect Richard Nixon may be commended for eluding a minor difficulty (with major potential) when he politely declined an invitation of President Thieu of South Vietnam to visit Saigon for an on-the-spot "assessment" of the Vietnam war. He said he would not go except at the request of President John-

son, and with the latter's assurance it would not upset the Paris negotiations.

There is some unmeasurable hazard involved in such a trip, and as most Americans are saying—rather slyly—they want Mr. Nixon to keep his health.

But in any case there is doubt if such a journey is

Opinions on Affairs of the World

advisable, because the President-elect would not be a free agent. His power to decide would be latent, he would not have a staff to gather information and advise him, and the time is too short to assemble one.

Moreover President Thieu and his regime have an axe to grind in Vietnam, differing materially from the American axe existent there. Thieu doesn't like the way the war has turned recently, and probably out of necessity of placating his political and military factors, has balked at several of the terms presented to him.

All Mr. Nixon could do is listen to President Thieu's views, from the lofty position of a unique VIP. He

could not make substantial promises on the one hand, nor on the other reject any of Thieu's arguments, because he does not know the terms of power he will wield in January. It might be a little different had he won an overwhelming "mandate," such as Mr. Johnson won in the 1964 election.

There is one good gamble: The American people don't want the war anymore. They didn't hand Mr. Nixon 31 million votes to continue the Asian policy of the Johnson administration, let alone mount an escalation of the war. The people want this run of sorry history behind them, the sooner the better.

Mr. Nixon is not a stupid man, and he must perceive all this. Regardless of the calculated positions he took on the war during his campaign, he is committed to a "change." The nature of the "change" is tenuous to us, but the reality as a guide to future action is solid.

It is Mr. Nixon's problem. Nor could he, in a few days in Saigon, give any commitments which would jeopardize his solution of the problem. This is what a President-elect can bump into when he enters an interregnum, which is otherwise a rather exuberant human experience.

HERB CAEN SAYS:

A Monkey Suit For Beer Bust?

Robert Watt Miller, the formidable tycoon who's the driving force behind the S.F. Opera, is such a stickler for form that he wears white tie and tails to EVERY performance of the opera, even those at which "ordinary" clothes are permissible. Thus attired in his finery, he was striding along an Opera House hallway when he ran into his brother, Albert K. Miller, modestly done up in a dinner jacket. Looking down from his Olympian height, Robert Watt inquired coldly: "Going to a beer bust?"

Instant partner: Among our brighter newcomers is F. Gordon Brown Jr., a swinging young stockbroker from New York who lives in one of those great little houses on Telegraph Hill Blvd. A short time back, Phil Fay Stevenson took him to lunch at The Pavilion, at Polk and Union, and Brown said appreciatively, "Y'know, this is the choicest little restaurant West of New York." And a few days later Brown phoned. Phil to report: "Well, I just bought a half interest in the place — it was the only way I could get a table!"

The Bay Area's only REAL underground paper — The Outlaw, printed by San Quentin prison rebels under the noses of the guards — was being sold right out loud on the streets of S.F. the other day, compounding the mystery. Who smuggled them out of the prison, and how? . . . L'amour toujours etc: Screen-star Stephen Boyd's beauty sleep at the Fairmont was interrupted by a phone call from Brigitte Bardot, in Paris, who beat his ear for 70 minutes, not collect. I tried to get the gist of the conversation but the F'mont's operators are incorruptible.

The totally boring look: A cashmere blonde wearing pleated skirt, baby blue sweater and tiny pearls, at the wheel of a huge station wagon with simulated wood panels. In the back: two plastic children and a dog made of Acrilan.

The neurotic mind (cont'd): When you get a letter that has been opened and resealed with Scotch tape, do you too wonder whether the writer took something out as an afterthought, or added a ditto?

Note to redevelopers: The \$90,000 Victorian house of today is what yesterday's redevelopers thought of as the slum of tomorrow.

Invaluable tip to tourists: When you take a dog onto a cable car you will have to pay two fares so be sure to ask for two transfers. The well-trained San Francisco dog can carry a transfer in its mouth without biting hard enough to invalidate it.

This is your life: To those of you who complain that I don't spend enough time in the neighborhoods, all I can say is hmpm. "Hmph." At the Circle Club on Valencia, in walked Arthur Demergue, William Muzio and Joseph Surdyka — morticians all. "Ah, here come three live ones!" greeted Big Julie Molnar, to a round of (laughter). "This is my favorite cadaver," responded Muzio. Nearby sat Jerry Johnstone, chain-smoking. After he'd lit this third one, Mortician Surdyka patted his back on the way out and grinned: "So long, Jer, see you soon." Downtown is better?

Other Opinions

Oakland (Calif.) Voice: The frantic efforts of so many people to excuse rioters, arsonists and other law-breakers on the basis of some tortured concept of group guilt is one of the more depressing aspects of these worrisome times. Violence is not synonymous with dissent, and no society can progress across the barren desert of lawlessness.

Rockland (Me.) Courier-Gazette: The people of the country are pretty much fed up with the flouting of the laws, and the condoning of that flouting by enforcement officers whose hands are tied by court decision of recent years. A thief is a thief, an arsonist is an arsonist, a troublemaker is a troublemaker. May the day come soon in which they will be once again recognized for what they are: enemies of society.



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