

# None of 'em Play Hookey

## American Congressmen Are Best Paid in World; World's Best Job Is Expected

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—(UP)—The highest paid legislature in history, with exception of one which wore night shirts trimmed in purple, goes to work here Friday noon.

Only lawmakers who ever earned so much as the members of our own 80th congress were the senators under Constantine II during the decline of the Roman empire; they collected gold, diamonds, elephant tusks and peacock feathers.

Our new congress de luxe is in no such jeopardy. At least, not literally. Each senator and representative earns \$15,000 a year. Actually it is equal to a little more than that because \$2,500 of his income is listed as expense money and is not subject to tax.

He also receives for the first time a pension for his old age and if he is speaker of the house or President pro tem of the senate he gets a salary of \$20,000 a year, plus that \$2,500 in expenses. "I was not ever thus."

I have been snooping in the dustier archives of congress and I can report that the givers of our laws have been worrying about their own pay ever since the British were chased out. In 1796 we paid our congressmen \$5 a day for every day they actually worked. It was a little more than that, but they said nothing and what happened? Congressmen raised their wages again the following year to \$7,500. This was a mistake.

The boys struggled along until 1818, when they were smacked by the high cost of living. They searched their souls and they raised their wages to \$8 a day.

In 1866 congress took itself out of the day labor class and voted the members an annual wage of \$5,000. This struck the taxpayers as a little steep, but they said nothing and what happened? Congressmen raised their wages again the following year to \$7,500. This was a mistake.

The citizens wrote letters; the editors penned editorials; and the politicians trembled. They apologized to the nation for their greediness and they cut back their pay to \$5,000. This also was the year that deductions for absenteeism stopped mysteriously.

Nobody knows why to this day, but not since 1867 has any congressman failed to receive his full pay check because he played hookey. The law's still on the books, however, and my authorities say it could be enforced if congress wanted to be strict—with congress.

Not until 1907 did the congressmen raise their wages again. They made the fee \$7,500 once more and this time it stuck. In 1925, over the protest of the late Senator William E. Borah (who said congressmen weren't worth that much), their salaries went up to \$10,000.

They remained, despite half-hearted attempts to get pensions and the house of representatives' decision a couple of years ago to give itself an expense account. The new \$15,000 wage, plus a regular pension system, was adopted last session as a part of the LaFollette-Monroney streamlining plan.

While I was about it I checked with the legislative reference service, where the man said there was no doubt our lawmakers are the best paid by far in the world. Runners up are members of Britain's house of commons, who get about \$1,500 a year and have to

BELIEVE IT OR NOT . . . . . BY RIPLEY



NOVELLIUS TORQUATUS DRANK 3 GALLONS OF WINE AT ONE DRAUGHT! PERFORMED BEFORE EMPEROR TIBERIUS

THE HAPPY PRISONER FRANK KELLOGG San Quentin

PROTESTED TO THE SUPREME COURT THAT HIS SENTENCE OF 14 YEARS WAS NOT LONG ENOUGH!

"STILL WATER RUNS DEEP" IT DOES NOT - IT STANDS STILL

EXPLANATION OF YESTERDAY'S CARTOON MINCE PIE PROHIBITION—In 1559 the Lord Protector, Oliver Cromwell, issued an ordinance prohibiting the eating of mince pies, under pain of instant expulsion from church and state. Christian England conceived mince pies to be an abomination "abhorrent to a Christian and a heritage of pagan, druidic worship."

# Hamilton Field Robbery Hero Proved To Be Army's Sad Sack

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.—(INS)—The "Great Hamilton Field Robbery" was disclosed today to have been just a dream of an erstwhile hero—17-year-old Pvt. Jimmy Hill of Robinson, Ill.

Hill, who entered the Army three months ago, tearfully confessed the hoax to Army and FBI agents following an intensive investigation of the alleged holdup attempt at the Army field.

Rookie Hill said he had dreamed up his tale of six thugs attempting to steal a \$250,000 Army payroll because he had accidentally broken on a window pane in the finance office. He gulped.

"I was afraid I would be punished for the window," he said. Furthermore, Hill said in choking words to federal agents that

he was disappointed because his "top kick" wouldn't give him a pass last Saturday night. He wanted the pass to go to San Francisco and marry his girl, 17-year-old Rosemary Watson.

At 4:30 a. m. Saturday he was walking his post. He rattled the door of the finance office to make sure it was locked. Hill then made a rapid about face. Crash! His 12-gauge shotgun had smashed a window of the office.

He shouted for the corporal of the guard and then fired a blast from his shotgun. Military police screamed up in a jeep. Pvt. Henry Willis, 21, the corporal of the guard, began emptying his two .45 revolvers at six non-existing thugs which Hill reported scurrying away in the night shadows.

When the smoke cleared away, six thugs in Army uniform—supposedly—had melted away. The payroll was safe. Rookie Hill was a hero.

Then the FBI began pouring over evidence at hand.

For instance, the thugs reportedly had returned Hill's gunfire. But there were no empty shells. Corporal of the Guard Willis insisted that he heard the men firing back.

Then Rookie Hill talked. There were a lot of red faces.

# Rites Set Thursday For Disease Expert

BOWLING GREEN, Dec. 31.—(INS)—Services will be held in Bowling Green Thursday for Dr. Porter James Crawford, 51, world-renowned authority of tropical diseases who died Dec. 27 in Havana. Burial will be at nearby Wayne.

Dr. Crawford, a native of Seville, was regional director of the Rockefeller foundation in the Caribbean area.

# Old Acquaintances Heard On 'Vox Pop' Show Tuesday

Taking their cue from the title of the picture, "The Best Years of Our Lives," Parks Johnson and Warren Hull round up a group of old acquaintances for interviews on their "Vox Pop" New Year's Eve broadcast at 9 p. m. Tuesday over CBS.

The best years of the Vox Poppers lives have been spent in interviewing a cross-section of America, and this group of interviewees, most of whom have appeared on previous broadcasts, will travel to the "cross-roads of America" to tell about their "best years."

The Kingfish gets a job as an insurance salesman during the "Amos 'n' Andy" broadcast at 9 p. m. over NBC. His first victim is Andy, to whom he sells a burial policy with very little trouble. But when it comes time to sell him an accident policy, he finds Andy on the fence. The Kingfish is called upon to use all the tricks he knows to clinch the deal.

A sparkling New Year's Eve program featuring the nation's favorite jump tunes, ballads and blues, selected on the basis of coast to coast poll of famous musicians, bandleaders and vocalists and interpreted by Vera Holly and Bill Harrington will be heard on a special MBS broadcast at 9:30 p. m.

Preliminary reports have it that such tongue twisters as "Hey Dob Ba Re Tob" and "Comet Mixer," jump tunes like "Route 66" and ballads such as "Surrender" and "September Song" are receiving a large number of votes in the nationwide poll and will be found in the program.

# Chinese Reds Claim Government Not Set

NANKING, Dec. 31.—(INS)—A Communist spokesman in Nanking today branded as "absolutely untrue" a Central News Agency report quoting Peiping dispatches as saying Chinese Communists have decided to form their own government.

The Communist party spokesman, Wang Ping-Nan, said that such a move would indicate the Communists had given up all hope of a peaceful settlement of their differences with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's government.

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# WLOK DIAL LOG

LIMA TIME TUESDAY P.M. 8:00 Pinnacle Parade (Shaw Jewelers) 8:15 1240 Club 8:20 The Frank Parker Show (Gregg's) 8:45 Here's to Veterans NBC 8:50 Chesterfield Supper Club NBC 9:00 The Frank Parker Show (Gregg's) NBC 9:10 Evening Melodies NBC 9:45 1240 Club NBC 9:55 Radio Valley (Phillip Morris) NBC 10:00 Date with Judy (Tama) NBC 10:05 Amos 'n' Andy (Hiss) NBC 10:10 The Frank Parker Show (Gregg's) NBC 10:15 Bob Hope (President) NBC 10:20 Red Hinton (Ratcliff) NBC 10:30 Metropolitan Bank News NBC 11:15 New Year's Eve Greetings NBC

A.M. WEDNESDAY 6:30 News 6:45 Musical Roundup 6:55 Victrola Living 7:00 The Frank Parker Show (Gregg's) ONW 7:05 News (National Finance) 7:15 Musical Klok 7:15 Excursions in Science 7:30 Frank and Neal 7:45 Revell Roundup (Groves) NBC 7:55 Shopper's Serenade (Armstrong Furniture) NBC 8:15 Shopper's Serenade NBC 8:45 Music Shop 9:00 Radio Valley (Phillip Morris) NBC 9:05 String Serenade NBC 9:15 Name It And You Can Have It 9:30 Fashion Interlude (Heimann Fur) 9:35 Morning Melodies 9:45 The Frank Parker Show (Gregg's) 10:00 Moore's Stores 10:15 Art Baker's Notebook (M-Ward) NBC 10:20 Road Radio (Dea) NBC 10:45 1240 Club 11:00 Fred Waring 11:30 Jack Berch Roundup (Prudential Ins. Co.) 11:45 M-Ward Farm News 11:50 Program Lineup 11:55 Lion Clothing News

P.M. 12:30 Rerun Food For Thought 12:45 M-Ward Luncheon 12:50 Radio Valley (Phillip Morris) NBC 12:55 Pizol News 1:05 Blatner's Feed The Kitty UNW 1:10 Radio Valley (Phillip Morris) NBC 1:15 Goufas Playhouse Times 1:30 1240 Club 2:00 Lion Children (Bisquick) NBC 2:15 Woman in White (All Amer. Flour) NBC 2:30 Masquerade 2:45 Harry Wood Show (Burkhardt) NBC 3:00 Life Can Be Beautiful (Spic & Span) NBC 3:15 Ma Perkins (Oxydol) NBC 3:30 Pepper Youngs Family (Camargo) NBC 3:45 Right To Happiness (Ivory Snow) NBC 4:00 Backstage Wife (Energin) NBC 4:15 Stella Dallas (Phillips Milk of Magnesia) NBC 4:30 Lorenzo Jones (Phillips Cream) NBC 4:45 Rose Bowl Game NBC

WLOK DIAL LOG Lima, Ohio 1240 Kc.

# Sennysayings

Registered U. S. Patent Office.



The little new year is in, I guess, and so 'm I—ALL IN!

# Red Says Oppressed Not To Be Martyrs

LONDON, Dec. 31.—(INS)—A Moscow radio commentator, summarizing the achievements of this year, declared today:

"After 1946 there can be no return to the state wherein the white third of mankind rules the world as Smuts (Prime Minister Jan Christian Smuts of South Africa) recommends."

The unnamed commentator added that despite the tricks and ruses of the champions of the color barrier the oppressed nations have no intention of further accepting the position of political martyrs.

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GET THE GANG TOGETHER... SEE THE OLD YEAR OUT—THE NEW YEAR IN— LOUIE'S NITE CLUB Main and McKibben

CELEBRATE HERE! Open New Years Eve And New Years Day Serving Special New Years Breakfast

The PINES 1531 Allentown Road

Happiest NEW YEAR 19 of all 47 HAPPY HEARTS HAPPY FACES AND A HAPPY DAY! We hope 1947 will bring you many blessings, and take this means of telling you how happy we are in having had the opportunity to serve you so often during the past year. WAYNE BAR 134 E. Wayne St. BEER, WINE, LIQUOR TOM AND JERRIES

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY NO RESERVATIONS ROUND and SQUARE DANCING MUSIC BY TEX FERGUSON AND HIS DRIFTING PIONEERS TOWN TAVERN LANDECK, OHIO

CELEBRATE With GOOD FOOD, and DRINKS NEW YEARS EVE At the KIRWAN GRILL

Have a Good Time at The NEWYORKER on NEW YEAR'S EVE! Call your friends... make arrangements to say goodbye to '46 at the Newyorker... Fun and favors for all! Featuring Lima's Original Chicken in the Basket. Delicious Steaks and Chops. Happy, Prosperous New Year To All! NEWYORKER BAR 929 N. MAIN ST.

WINE TO TAKE OUT ANDY'S CAFE 310 N. MAIN ST.

WELCOME THE NEW YEAR AT THE G & G CAFE 665-667 S. Main BEER - WINE GOOD FOOD

NO COVER CHARGE NEW YEAR'S EVE The RATHSKELLER DOWNTOWN'S BRIGHTEST NITE CLUB... Open till 2:30

STOP IN New Year's Eve "FINE FOODS and LIQUORS" CAFE HUDSON BAR 234 N. MAIN

OPEN HOUSE NEW YEARS EVE! at the Mayfair Lounge Favors - Noisemakers - Souvenirs OPEN NEW YEARS DAY! DANCE Every Nite Till 2:30 MAYFAIR LOUNGE 122 E. NORTH ST.

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY FUN! FAVORS! NOISEMAKERS! No Reservations Needed--Just Come In DANCING 'TIL? GARRY VANCE and His Sax KARL KRÖSKE at the Piano HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL ALPINE VILLAGE Spencerville Rd. at City Limits