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HIGHWAY FATALITIES . . . One of two seriously injured boys is carried to an ambulance after a loaded lumber truck collided with a passenger car, killing a San Leandro couple, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Johnson, and Mrs. Margaret B. Smith, former Hayward resident, and Mrs. Smith's six-year-old daughter.

—AP Wirephoto

Peripatetic Conferences

LBJ Walks When He Talks With Press

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House is sparkling in the spring and a peripatetic President has turned himself into a modern-day Aristotle—of sorts — with increasing frequency in the balmy, beautiful weather.

President Johnson likes to walk and talk, particularly to walk and talk at the same time. So he had another walkie-talkie tour of the back yard Thursday with perhaps 50 reporters in tow.

ARISTOTLE

It was much like the days of the Greeks, when Aristotle lectured his pupils while strolling through the Lyceum Gymnasium in Athens. "Peripatetic" means walking around, and Aristotle founded a peripatetic school of philosophy.

LBJ founded the peripatetic press conference.

These take place with no regularity, any more than do any other presidential press conferences. But they seem to have more appeal to the President in the spring. This one took a small detour from the customary route, into the new east garden named for Mrs. John F. Kennedy.

There was another new feature — a Secret Service man edged through the throng of reporters surrounding Johnson, whispered in his ear, and the President hurried over to a telephone on the wall of the rear portico, a telephone usually used by the White House police. He talked for five minutes or so and returned to the parade route with not a word on what it was about.

NO WAY

But this was a man who has cause for concern about fighting involving American troops in areas a hemisphere apart — in Viet Nam and the Dominican Republic. Whether the call had anything to do with either arena, there was no way of telling.

And perhaps the walk served as a means of showing that there was no lack of confidence and no presence of alarm in the presidential bearing. Johnson seemed to be at ease and not too perturbed about anything.

By presidential edict, these walks are off the record, for the most part, so far as what the President says is concerned. He ranges the world and the nation just as he does in on-the-record news conferences, but often talks a little more freely. Sometimes it is a monologue for a while. And always there are questions and Johnson can answer them or talk around them as he sees fit.

Now and then he stops short to emphasize a point and pursuers stumble to a halt, stepping on heels and toes.

The route is the circular driveway, flattened on the far side, that swings behind the rear entrance beneath the Truman balcony. It goes down a slight decline, straightens out past a fountain, and goes up a slight slope. It shouldn't be too severe a course except the conditions aren't ideal when a pack of newsmen and newswomen all want to be at the presidential elbow.

And along the sides there are some hazards. Peter Lisagor of the Chicago Daily News once was more intent on the President than on a lamp post and a consequent collision brought a gash in his forehead that required a bandage. Another time Pete failed to turn aside in time for a gardener's truck and collided with the tailgate.

Woman reporters have a time of it with high heels. These aren't the best footgear for the roughened driveway or occasional sorties onto the turf. Some of them have learned to stash away "flats" in the White House press room, in case they have time to grab them when Press Secretary George E. Reedy wanders into the lobby and asks: "Would anyone like to take a walk?"

DOGS, TOO

Reporters and the President, plus security officers and some of the White House staff are the only people who go on the tramps around the driveway. But Johnson always wants his dogs out, too.

Thursday's tour was a seven-lap affair of about a third of a mile to the lap. That ran the distance up to a little more than two miles.

The record was set last summer just before the Democratic National Convention. This one lasted an estimated 17 laps and 3½ hours by the count of gasping reporters who weren't too sure. Johnson dropped a hint of something that eventually materialized — that he might tap Hubert H. Humphrey as a vice-presidential running mate.

Boost in Jr. College Aid Refused

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SACRAMENTO (AP) — It's a good idea, but there's no money, an Assembly committee in effect has told a legislator unsuccessfully urging a $15 million boost in state aid to junior colleges.

On a 12-5 vote, the Assembly Ways and Means Committee refused Thursday to approve the bill by Assemblyman Charles B. Garrigus, D-Reedley, a junior college teacher in private life.

Debate on the measure found Garrigus contending funds earmarked for education are "disappearing in the supernatural jungles of the Department of Finance."

Assistant Finance Director Roy Bell, sitting nearby, shot back that Garrigus was wrong. He and Legislative Analyst A. Alan Post noted the bill didn't provide a way to raise the $15 million.

Garrigus replied that the proposal could be paid for from money appropriated, but not yet used, encouraging unification of elementary and high school districts.

Changing Times

Southerners Losing Political Grip

By JAMES MARLOW
AP News Analyst

WASHINGTON (AP) — Southerners in Congress hold more power positions today than in President Truman's time, 15 years ago. But their actual power has been dented and, on civil rights, broken.

The two main reasons — besides the obvious ones of new times, attitudes and faces — are the Supreme Court decision of 1954 and conservatism's smashing defeat in the 1964 election.

This shows the irony in the Southerners' predicament:

In 1950 Southern Democrats held only 40 per cent of the prized Senate committee chairmanships, or 6 out of 16. Today they have 62 per cent, or 10 out of 16. It's similar in the House.

Yet, in the Truman years, when their power position was smaller, they could stop him and Congress dead on any attempt to put through a civil rights bill. They had one big weapon, the filibuster, and one priceless ally.

ATTITUDE

This was the much more conservative attitude of the Congress of those days, which meant lack of enthusiasm or perhaps even interest in civil rights or choking off the Southerners.

Then some of the most important figures in Congress, all of whom had lived through the depression but refused to adjust to the new era ushered in by the *New Deal of the 1930's, were conservatives.*

Their only difference was in party labels. This made a tacit alliance with the Southerners — to the extent of not frustrating them on civil rights — a lot easier and more natural since the Southerners were conservatives, too.

At the same time the old Supreme Court decision of 1896 — saying it was constitutional for segregate Negroes — still stood and thus put a respectable constitutional cloak over those in both parties not fighting for civil rights.

The great change began with the court's 1954 ruling which overturned that of 1896 by declaring the very principle of segregation unconstitutional. This deprived all forms of segregation of legal blessing and congressional inertia.

It broke Southern resistance, although it took many Southerners a time to realize it, since *they put on a show of defiance, and took the spirit out of it.*

JOHNSON

Within three years, in 1957, Lyndon B. Johnson, then Senate Democratic leader, was able to pilot the first civil rights bill of this century to passage.

Southern resistance in Congress couldn't stop it, and it has been growing weaker since. The result: Two more civil rights bills, in 1960 and 1964, were passed.

Now, under President Johnson's prodding for a strong measure to protect Negroes' voting rights, Congress will pass another civil rights bill and this time Southerners haven't even planned a filibuster.

But other forces were at work to reduce conservatism in Congress. The big example came last year in the presidential race between Johnson and Sen. Barry Goldwater.

He made conservatism versus liberalism such an issue it gave the country its first clear choice on this since the 1936 race between President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Gov. Alf Landon of Kansas.

DISASTER

Goldwater not only suffered shattering defeat but carried his Republican party in disaster. The election gave the Democrats 68 Senate seats to 32 for Republicans and 295 House seats to 104.

Now Republicans must adopt *a more liberal look to restore their fortunes. This means they can't line up with the Southerners, particularly on civil rights.* A good insight came recently from Sen. Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois.

This Republican Senate leader, who backed Goldwater in 1964 after the latter voted against civil rights legislation, says now in support of Johnson's civil rights bill:

"We're thinking of people with dusky skins who for 100 years have been denied the right to vote." Dirksen himself voted for the 1964 civil rights bill.

Southern conservatism's force in Congress seems smashed for many years. As more Negroes vote in the South, white politicians running for Congress will have to be responsive to their needs.

And, until Negroes have far more affluence than now, their needs, and therefore their desires, are not apt to be on the conservative side. This will mean fewer white conservatives in Congress from the South.

Another Russell City House Fire

RUSSELL CITY — The Alameda County Fire Patrol is getting the idea that either someone doesn't like them or is trying to clear Russell City of all the vacant houses.

The fire patrol answered another call last night in Russell City and found another vacant house almost completely destroyed by fire before the firefighters arrived.

The firemen have responded to 20 fires in Russell City since the first of the year and five of them have occurred since April 12.

Last night's fire, on Louisiana Street, was called in a little before midnight, and the glow was visible from most of Hayward.

The buildings are all scheduled for demolition by the Russell City Redevelopment Agency and the land will be used for industrial development.

Student Rebellions Defended

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) — A Stanford University psychiatrist says that "to say students are rebelling in order to gain control and run the universities makes about as much sense as saying that because Negroes in America want civil rights they seek to overthrow the government."

Students, says Dr. James Paulsen, are simply transforming healthy resentments into rebellion.

He told the American College Health Association Thursday that adults often demand an end to student demonstrations because "it is awkward to have youth point out deficiencies in adult behavior and to initiate leadership where we provide sham and ineptitude."

Buddhist Monks Arrested

RANGOON, Burma (AP) — Burma's revolutionary government has arrested another 34 Buddhist monks accused of anti-government activities, the official paper Working People's Daily said today.

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