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Kennedy Slain

President Assassinated by Sniper in Dallas

President Kennedy was shot and killed today just as his motorcade left downtown Dallas. Secret Service men are looking for the source of the shot. The president's car is in the foreground. The man at the left is believed to be the president. —AP Wirephoto

Between the Lines

By Tex Reynolds

President Slain? Mind Struggles to Accept Truth

THE REPORT comes when you're eating lunch. President Kennedy shot? You can't believe it. Such things just don't happen. It has to be a wild rumor—one of those things that people sometimes hear over the radio. But when you run all the way to the office, and see the story being pounded out on the teletype, you have to face the fact that it's true.

You're a newspaperman. You have watched hard-hitting stories break. You aren't inclined to get hysterical or over-excited. And yet here's something that knocks you back on your heels. Your mind races hard to keep up with what you see.

"What kind of maniac could have done this?" you ask yourself, as a picture comes over the wire, showing the car in which the president was shot, with a secret service man leaning over to help him.

But then you think, "What's the difference who did it? The terrible result is what's important."

You know you're a witness at a great and horrible point in history. But you think first of the president as a man; a husband and the father of two little kids. It is a time when you don't think of him as the leader of one political party and a candidate for re-election.

But then, being a newspaperman, you start to look ahead and form questions in your mind. You know that this event will shake the very foundation of the country. But how will it finally affect the course of events, at home and abroad? Your mind goes to Vice President Lyndon Johnson, who must pick up the burdens that John F. Kennedy has laid down.

In due course, you think of the governor of Texas, shot at the same time. He's a human being, and an important one, too. But you know that what happens to him has to be secondary in the thoughts of the nation and the world.

You sit down and write things like this, and hope that they make sense, but you have a feeling of numbness as you do it. Even as you write, you still can't believe that it has happened.

* * *

IT'S HARD to feel shocked over anything that happens in Chicago, but the tie-up and friendship of a municipal judge with a known hoodlum who had Costa Nostra connections hits a new low, even in that conspicuous-ness city. Even if the murdered mobster had never succeeded "fixing" a case in this judge's court, admittedly he tried it, and for a judge to continue associating with such a character is beyond the understanding of decent people.

* * *

THOUGH city truckers in Milwaukee have stayed off the job for four days, and thrown about 1,000 other employes out of work, it isn't a strike, according to union spokesmen. The pickets are only holding "walking union meetings."

Such a ridiculous insult to public intelligence won't do the cause of unionized public employes in Milwaukee, or anywhere else, any good. Already there's a state law forbidding strikes of public employes. Trying to circumvent it by saying that a strike isn't a strike will only result in strengthening that law, and putting some teeth into it that will hurt the followers of such misguided union leadership.

DeGAULLE TO TALK

PARIS—(AP)— Pres. Charles de Gaulle will turn 73 today and at his request no ceremony marked the occasion. He devoted himself to business.

Gunman Fells Governor of Texas Also

DALLAS —(AP)— Pres. John F. Kennedy, 36th president of the United States, was shot to death today by a hidden assassin armed with a high-powered rifle.

Kennedy, 46, lived less than an hour after a sniper cut him down as his limousine left downtown Dallas.

Automatically, the mantle of the presidency fell to Vice Pres. Lyndon B. Johnson, a native Texas who had been riding two cars behind the chief executive.

Die In Hospital

There was no immediate word on when Johnson would take the oath of office.

Asst. presidential press secretary Malcolm Kilduff said Johnson was not hit. The new president previously had been reported wounded.

Kennedy died at Parkland Hospital, where his bullet-pierced body had been taken in a frantic but futile effort to save his life.

Lying wounded at the same hospital was Governor John Connally of Texas, who was cut down by the same fusillade that ended the life of the youngest man ever elected to the presidency.

Connally and his wife had been riding with the president and Mrs. Kennedy.

The First Lady cradled her dying husband's blood-smeared head in her arms as the presidential limousine raced to the hospital.

"Oh, no," she kept crying.

Connally slumped in his seat beside the president.

Police ordered an unprecedented dragnet of the city, hunting for the assassin.

Believe Rifle Was Weapon

They believed the fatal shots were fired by a white man about 30, slender of build, weighing about 160 pounds, and standing 5 feet 10 inches tall.

The murder weapon reportedly was a 30-30 rifle.

Shortly before Kennedy's death became known, he was administered the last rites of the Roman Catholic Church. He had been the first Roman Catholic president in American history.

Even as two clergymen hovered over the fallen president in the hospital emergency room, doctors and nurses administered blood transfusions.

Wound In Brain

Kennedy died of a gunshot wound in the brain at approximately 1 p.m., Racine time, according to an announcement by acting White House press secretary Malcolm Kilduff.

The new president, Lyndon Johnson, and his wife left the hospital a half hour later. Newsmen had no opportunity to question them.

The horror of the assassination was mirrored in an eyewitness account by Sen. Ralph Yarborough, D-Texas, who had been riding three cars behind Kennedy.

"You could tell something awful and tragic had happened," the senator told newsmen before Kennedy's death became known. His voice breaking and his eyes red-rimmed, Yarborough said:

"I could see a Secret Service man in the president's car leaning on the car with his hands in anger, anguish and despair. I knew then something tragic had happened."

Counted Three Shots

Yarborough had counted three rifle shots as the presidential limousine left downtown Dallas through a triple underpass. The shots were fired from above—possibly from one of the bridges or from a nearby building.

One witness, television reporter Mel Couch, said he saw a gun emerge from an upper story of a warehouse com-

Gov. John Connally of Texas underwent an operation for a gunshot wound in the chest this afternoon. Connally's condition was said to be serious.

manding an unobstructed view of the presidential car.

Kennedy was the first president to be assassinated since William McKinley was shot in 1901.

It was the first death of a president in office since

(Turn to Page 2A, Col. 1)

Two Lawmen Are Also Killed

DALLAS, Texas—(AP) —A Secret Service agent and a Dallas policeman were shot and killed today some distance from the area where President Kennedy was assassinated. No other information was immediately available.

December Return Possible for Recessing Legislature

MADISON —(AP)— Wisconsin's 1963 Legislature has closed a brief fall session that lifted the taxpayers' burden a bit but widened the breach between the Republican majority and Democratic Gov. John W. Reynolds.

The lawmakers left a lot of loose ends in packing up Thursday night until April 13. And one could bring them back to Madison next month. About 250 bills were left unresolved.

The possibility of a December return was injected by the Legislature's refusal to act on the accelerated highway construction program Reynolds championed.

Was in Omaha

Reynolds was attending the Governor's Conference in Omaha, Neb., when the program was pushed aside, but Democratic leaders openly forecast that he would call a special session to force a decision on the issue.

"The only chance the motorist has left," said Democratic floorleader Robert Huber of West Allis, "is that the governor might take things into his own hands and call us back."

Republican floorleader Paul Alfonsi of Minocqua said he didn't believe the public was "clamoring for this program" and dared the governor to call a special session. Alfonsi is co-chairman of a committee

Tass Carries Flash of President's Death

NEW YORK — (AP) — The Soviet News Agency Tass carried this as a "flash" on its international English-language radioteletype circuit this afternoon.

"It has just been officially announced that United States President John F. Kennedy died in a hospital after an attempt was made on his life by persons, as believed, of the extreme right-wing elements."

Reynolds named to gain support for the program he dubbed Project 66.

Sure to Upset Him

Reynolds also was sure to be unhappy about the Assembly's refusal to pass a bill repealing the three per cent sales tax on household electricity. Elimination of the $3.4 million levy was a key item in the governor's plan for using a $25 million surplus predicted for the end of the biennium.

The electricity tax repealer rode into the Assembly on an overwhelming Senate vote of approval. But it collided with Republican leaders who insisted that some of the predicted surplus should be kept to cushion the possibility of an early estimate.

The Legislature did slash away at the projected surplus in a number of other areas. However, Best estimates placed the total reduction at $18 million.

Pot Swipe Made

Repeal of the $2 state income tax filing fee was the first swipe made. It came on Nov. 4, opening day of the fall session, and reduced the biennium's anticipated revenues $4.3 million.

Restoration of $8 million in school aids for the second year of the biennium was the biggest drain on the surplus. But no outlay of state funds ever had more solid support.

Elimination of the sales tax on federal excises attached to luxury item purchases cut away $1.6 million, and the repeal of sales taxes on food processing machinery eliminated $600,000.

Difference of Opinion

While arguments on Project 66 and electricity taxes occupied the Assembly on closing day, the Senate's recess was held up by a sharp difference on what to do with the appointment of Democratic floorleader Richard Zaborski to the Public Service Commission.

Republicans had deferred action on the appointment of the Milwaukee senator pending the attorney general's opinion on whether he could legally take the job. Several GOP leaders contended the office was closed to him because, as a senator, he voted to raise the pay for the post.

Atty. Gen. George Thompson held the appointment valid, however, and put his fellow Republicans in an awkward position. They were reluctant to turn their backs on a colleague and on Arthur L. Padrutt, the Republican appointee Zaborski would replace.

Temporarily Drop Issue

The GOP majority finally decided to leave the issue undecided until the Legislature returns in April.

During the dozen working days of the session, lawmak-

(Turn to Page 2A, Col. 3)

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY . . . Dies in Hospital After Suffering Head Wound . . .

LYNDON B. JOHNSON . . . New President of the United States . . .

Racine Area

WEATHER

Cloudy, windy with rain ending tonight. Turning much colder late tonight. Saturday considerable cloudiness, windy and much colder. Low tonight in the upper 20s. High Saturday in the low 30s. Southerly winds 15 to 25 early tonight, shifting to northwesterly 20 to 30 early Saturday. OUTLOOK FOR SUNDAY: Partly cloudy, rather cold. Low near 20, high in the mid 30s.

ELSEWHERE IN STATE

Rain ending early tonight, probably becoming mixed with snow northwest before ending. Much colder entire state tonight. Mostly cloudy. Saturday partly cloudy and much colder. Low tonight 15 to 20 west, in the 20s east. High Saturday 18 to 25 north, 25 to 32 south.

Temperatures at 4:31 a.m. and will get at 4:30 p.m. Temperatures on page 2A.