



Harry Golden's "Only In America"

SEATLESS CONGRESSMEN

The House of Representatives by an overwhelming vote denied Adam Clayton Powell the right to take his seat as the duly-elected Congressman from Harlem. Mr. Powell, angry and hurt, prophesied doom for the Johnson Administration in 1968. The Negroes will resent this move.

More interesting, however, is the fact that the entire Republican bloc voted against Mr. Powell, forgetting that Mr. Powell switched to Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1952 and again in 1956. No one mentioned this ingratitude although it is probably true that Mr. Powell's switch may well have been for his own interest.

Why Mr. Powell would vent his anger only at the Democrats amazes me. A joint action by the house deprived him of his seat. Republicans were out to get him, too.

There is no question that the House of Representatives can regulate the conduct of its members and dish out the punishment it sees fit. Nor is there any question in my mind Mr. Powell will win re-election by an even larger majority than he did last November.

But there is a certain caprice in the House's vote which we ought to consider. Which is to say Mr. Powell's conduct is not the only conduct amidst that august body which is outrageous.

One hundred and sixty years ago, the House unseated John Randolph as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, alleging at the time his conduct was eccentric and arbitrary. Mr. Randolph succeeded in making Henry Clay choleric when he brought all his thorough-

bred hounds into the House Chamber.

In 1900 the House bounced Brigham Roberts, a Mormon who "indulged the vile practice of polygamy."

But the most notorious of all House banishments was when the Representatives refused his chair to Victor Berger, the Milwaukee Socialist. Berger became the first Socialist elected to Congress in 1911. He lost re-election but won again in 1918. As a Socialist, of course, he opposed American participation in World War I. This fierce opposition led to his being tried by a Federal Court on the charges he was lending aid and comfort to the enemy and that he was disloyal to the United States in time of war. Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis gave him 20 years but Berger appealed his conviction.

It was at this time he won his Congressional seat and the Congress said, "Oh, no, we want no disagreements here." They refused to seat him in 1918 and again in 1920 which, in effect, left Milwaukee without representation. By 1921, the Supreme Court reversed Berger's conviction and in 1922 he won so overwhelming a victory at the polls no one bothered him when he came to Washington.

Whether Berger's presence in the Congress during the four years he was deprived of a seat would have made any difference in our foreign or domestic policies is debatable. While the Socialists had certain moral intuitions about the folly of World War I, they were all wet politically. German Socialists joined the German Army and fought British Socialists who became Tommies. Among peoples nationalism is an organizing dynamo as we have discovered today in Africa, China, the Near East, and Europe.

Plans for a dinner and "night of fun" saluting Nevada Representative Walter Baring at Caesars Palace in March were made by Maurice Friedman, president of the Frontier Hotel now under construction, chairman of the event and his two co-chairmen, Mel Exber, president of the Las Vegas Club, and J.R. (Davey) Crockett, general manager of Reynolds Electric and Engineering Co. They said Nevada's 1967 salute to Rep. Baring will be a "night of fun, a non-partisan, non-political affair" sponsored by the "Friends of Congressman Baring Committee."

Also working on the \$100 a plate dinner is Bruce Dietrick, executive of Aerojet-General Corp., who has been named state coordinator of the social event.

Dietrick said committees have been formed in all sections of the state to help plan the dinner. It is scheduled for March 12.

Alan Lee, entertainment director for the Frontier Hotel, has accepted the appointment of entertainment coordinator for the Baring affair.

Friedman announced Nevada Senators Alan Bible and Howard Cannon will be Baring's honored guests, along with Gov. Paul Laxalt, Lt. Governor Ed Fike, and mayor Oran Gragson.

Other honored guests who have accepted Baring's invitation are Reps. Olin Teague

of Texas, Chairman of the Veterans Comtn. and Vice Chairman of the Science & Astronautics Comm; Wayne Aspinall of Colorado, Chairman of Interior & Insular Affairs Comm., and ranking member of Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. Also listed as honored guests are Reps. Durward G. Hall of Missouri, member of the Armed Service Comm; George P. Miller of California, Chairman of Science and Astronautics Comm; Chet Holifield of California, Chairman of Joint Committee on Atomic Energy and member of Governmental Operations Comm.

Rep. Baring has arranged for the visiting Congressional Delegation to view the Nuclear Rocket Development Station and the Nevada Test Site. Dietrick said this has been coordinated through the Space Nuclear Propulsion Office and the Atomic Energy Commission.

Salute to Baring Set for March 12 at Caesars

So Sorry!

Representative Baring's photo was inadvertently omitted from the Year End montage of hundreds of faces that appeared in the Israelite in 1966. We're trully sorry because Walter has supported all Jewish causes.



WALTER

of Texas, Chairman of the Veterans Comtn. and Vice Chairman of the Science & Astronautics Comm; Wayne Aspinall of Colorado, Chairman of Interior & Insular Affairs Comm., and ranking member of Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. Also listed as honored guests are Reps. Durward G. Hall of Missouri, member of the Armed Service Comm; George P. Miller of California, Chairman of Science and Astronautics Comm; Chet Holifield of California, Chairman of Joint Committee on Atomic Energy and member of Governmental Operations Comm.

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B.B.Y.O. - A.Z.A.

by Susie Harris

Las Vegas BBG and AZA are now home from the Regional Convention, where explorations were made into the depths of Judaism. There were discussions and lectures on religion, social problems, the U.N. and other subjects.

One of the major projects before the group is the annual Passover Candy sale. This Pasadic candy is flown in from the East, and therefore much advance preparation must be arranged to get this project properly underway.

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