

Dirksen Spurs Confirmation of Judges

By Drew Pearson

Sen. Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois has become the eagerest eager-beaver on Capitol Hill to rush the confirmation of Federal judges.

He tried to push up the confirmation of prospective Chief Justice Warren Burger from June 9 to June 5 for fear more details would leak out regarding Burger's amazing discussion at the Santa Barbara Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions at which Burger blasted the Fifth Amendment, cast doubt on the jury system, and decried the presumption of innocence until proved guilty.

In contrast to Burger, Chief Justice Warren was appointed in September 1953 and he was not confirmed until March 2, 1954. Yet every chapter of his long life as attorney general and Governor of California was well known, in contrast to the little-known Burger.

Now it develops that Sen. Dirksen is pushing confirmation of another judge of dubious qualification, Charles A. Bain of Chicago, to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

Bain is a member of the law firm of Isham, Lincoln and Beall, which represents Commonwealth Edison, Sam Insull's old utility firm. He has been on the special-interest side in every squabble in Chicago.

In addition, he has a record of favoring religious segregation. When Judge Jacob

Braude, for 35 years on the Illinois Circuit Court, applied for an apartment at 209 Lake Shore Drive in Chicago, he was barred as a result of Bain's opposition because he was Jewish. Bain was both a resident in the apartment house and attorney for the management.

Bain also helped bar Phil Klutznick, head of B'nai B'rith and former Ambassador to the United Nations; also Dr. Morris Fishbein, former editor of the American Medical Association Journal. In each case the reason was the applicant's religion.

"He raise so much hell with the management," Judge Braude told this column, "that they finally turned me down. He was their attorney. He has been trying to backtrack now that he has been appointed to the Court of Appeals. But the facts are there, and he can't escape them."

"I have written to Sen. Dirksen saying that I would be willing to come to Washington to testify, but I haven't heard from him."

Word from inside the Judiciary Committee, of which Dirksen is a member, is that he is not anxious to have Judge Braude come to Washington. He wants to get Bain confirmed before his background leaks out, just as he has been pushing Burger's confirmation before the Burger background becomes fully known.

Note—As a result of Judge Burger's extreme statements

at Santa Barbara regarding the jury system and the Fifth Amendment, the Southern California American Civil Liberties Union passed a resolution urging a review of Burger's background regarding civil liberties. However, Sen. Dirksen has been pushing for confirmation before any opposition develops.

Goodwill Ambassador

Allen Ellender of Louisiana is a Senator who cooks delicious wild game and seafood and who does not look his years. He is 78 and has served in the U.S. Senate longer than any other solon except Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia.

Partly because of this, partly because he figures that foreign affairs are the secret to peace in the world, he has become an unofficial traveling diplomat, concentrating recently on the country that may hold the key to peace—Soviet Russia.

"When I first went to Moscow," says Ellender, "the American Ambassador said it was useless for me to try to see anyone. They wouldn't see me, he said, and if they did, they wouldn't talk."

"However, I sent around to Mikoyan, then President, and he saw me right away. We talked for two hours. I found him very anxious for better understanding with the United States."

"Later I saw Khrushchev. I thought he would be a clown, but he wasn't. He was dead se-

rious. He knew all there was to be known about American-Soviet relations, but he didn't know enough about farming. I gave him some good advice on farming."

Ellender is Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee and has farm problems at his fingertips.

The Senator from Louisiana went back to Russia this past summer and traveled from Siberia to Moscow.

"I found everyone friendly," he said. "The Russians didn't try to hide anything. They let me go to any city I wanted in Siberia. I even went up to the Lena River, where they mine gold."

"The most important thing for the United States and Russia to do is understand each other. We have our system. They have theirs. But we've got to work together. If we do, we can maintain the peace of the world. If we don't, there will be another war."

Sen. Ellender takes with him a Bell & Howell camera and recently told Sen. Chuck Percy of Illinois, former president of Bell & Howell, how he had worked out some gadgets to improve the camera. Ellender has also brought back some fascinating film of the Soviet Union, and goes to great lengths to report to Senate colleagues on his trips, some of it the minutiae of dinner table conversation but some of it important for better understanding between peoples.

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