

Congress Returns In Hopeful Mood

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (AP)—Congress came back in a backslapping mood today to an election year session attuned to White House hopes for a peaceful world and a prosperous America.

Today there was no legislative business, only prayers, eulogies for the late Chief Justice Vinson and a sort of birthday party on the House floor for 72-year-old Sam Rayburn, the Democratic leader.

Laniel Wins Vote of Confidence

PARIS, Jan. 6 (AP)—Premier Joseph Laniel tonight won from the National Assembly a vote of confidence he demanded so "France can have a government solidly supported" for the Berlin conference of the Big Four foreign ministers. The count was 319-249 for Laniel.

Although it had been generally believed the Assembly would endorse him, the size of the vote in his favor was unexpected.

Some deputies had talked yesterday of abstaining to cut down Laniel's majority. He urged all deputies today to vote for him or against him, and not to resort to abstentions.

"It would be better for the country to have a new ministerial crisis opened tonight than to have the executive power diminished by the vote," Laniel said.

He got the votes of most members of the parties that supported him at the time of his installation last June 26 except the Radical moderate Socialists.

Most of the votes against Laniel came from the Communists, who oppose his whole program, and the Socialists, who oppose his domestic policies.

The test was on a procedural question—whether to postpone debate after Laniel addressed the Assembly on his policies, foreign and domestic. But he said this was to be regarded as a matter of confidence and he would resign if the Assembly did not go along with his request to postpone debate.

Project Underway On Power Plant

A power plant improvement project is currently underway at Shortlidge and Pollock roads, Walter H. Wiegand, director of the University Physical Plant, has reported.

Underground electric facilities are being installed. The work is part of a long-range General State Authority project aimed at improving power facilities at the University.

Clark Supports Dilworth As Governor Candidate

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6 (AP)—Mayor Joseph S. Clark Jr. today renewed his support of Dist. Atty. Richardson Dilworth for the Democratic gubernatorial candidate next fall.

Clark and Dilworth have been political allies for several years and were elected to their present posts in 1951, with Clark becoming the first Democratic mayor of Philadelphia in 68 years.

Unemployment to Reach 200,000 This Month

HARRISBURG, Jan. 6 (AP)—The Pennsylvania Employment Security Bureau today forecast unemployment will climb to more than 200,000 by the end of the month, largely because of heavier than usual seasonal layoffs.

Most of the layoffs are in steel, anthracite, textile and apparel, construction and railroads. But by spring, said Executive Director A. J. Caruso, employment will pick up to a substantial degree.

Helium, the lightweight gas of which the Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, is the sole commercial producer, is so inert that it is often called "the nearest thing to nothing."

Heiress' Romance May Be Scotched By Irate Father

EDINBURGH, Scotland, Jan. 6 (AP)—Runaway Bolivian heiress Maria Isabela Patino, 18, and her dashing English lover, Jimmy Goldsmith, 20, appealed to Scotland's highest court today for the right to marry over her father's objections.

Three Scottish judges will be asked to rule "yes" or "no" to the young sweethearts' appeal against a temporary injunction in magnate Atenor Patino obtained yesterday to block their quickie Scottish wedding.

Patino, one of Latin America's richest men, dashed here from Paris last week after learning his petite dark-eyed daughter and the debonair, Eton-educated Goldsmith had eloped. He is dead set against his pretty daughter's marriage until she grows a little older.

But Goldsmith's older brother, Edward, who introduced him to Isabela at a coronation party in London last June, told reporters there are other reasons for the objections, including six suitors of French royal blood who are all lined up to marry Isabela.

Italians Battle Po Dike Flood

MILAN, Italy, Jan. 6 (AP)—Police, firemen and volunteers fought tonight to hold the broken dikes of Italy's Po River delta against tides from the storm-swept Adriatic which already have flooded six villages and poured killing salt water over hundreds of acres of farm land.

The battle against the sea developed as snow and ice glazed most of Western Europe from Britain to Italy.

Wind-whipped waves of the upper Adriatic carved three 100-yard gaps last night in the delta dikes that guard Rovigo, 25 miles inland, in the farming area halfway between Venice and Bologna.

Authorities ordered the evacuation speeded. They warned that tonight's flood tides may be even worse than those last night.

Scores of men worked all day to sandbag and reinforce the holes torn through the walls which have gauged the lowland since the disastrous Po Valley floods of 1951 which caused damage estimated at more than 200 million dollars.

Tomorrow President Eisenhower comes before a combined Senate-House session to deliver his State of the Union message sketching a legislative program for 1954.

From then on, in the clashing cross currents of a campaign year, the air of gay good fellowship may drift away like the mists of the morning.

Democrats in Congress are almost as numerous as Republicans, and they are showing signs of a strengthened unity brought on by lashing Republican attacks and a dislike for many portions of Eisenhower's home front program.

Major Bills Due Next Week
No major legislation is on tap before next week, at the earliest.

In the Senate, the GOP Policy Committee mapped out a program that is likely to set off the first blasts of controversy in the new session. It includes for next week not only a batch of minor legislation but also a start on either the St. Lawrence seaway plan or a proposal to limit the President's treaty making powers—a pair of items charged with legislative dynamite.

But plenty of more important measures lie ahead. Eisenhower offers his farm and labor programs to Congress Monday, and controversy already is swirling around them.

Ike Joins in Prayer
Signalling the start of the new congressional session, Eisenhower partook of Communion this morning and joined in prayers—prayers that God will give him "serenity of soul . . . soundness of judgment" and that Congress will go about its tasks in the interests of "the safety and honor and welfare" of the people.

Up on Capitol Hill gavels fell exactly at noon in the Senate and House chambers. Legislators and onlookers in crowded galleries bowed in prayer with the chaplains. Then the membership rolls were called.

Once again, after five months of idleness, the legislative merry-go-round was ready to start whirling.

CIO Head Attackers Revealed in Detroit

DETROIT, Jan. 6 (AP)—Prosecutors today accused four men of conspiracy and assault with intent to murder CIO President Walter P. Reuther five years ago, and withheld names of four other persons sought in what they called a "solution" to the attempted assassination.

Wayne County Prosecutor Gerald K. O'Brien disclosed names of three men in jail and a fourth still being sought, but withheld names of the other four and information on evidence he had.

One of those arrested is Carl Renda, 35, and the other is his father-in-law, Santo Sam Perrone, 56, an ex-convict, whose police record dates back to 1920. Perrone is sought. Renda stood mute on arraignment and was placed under \$25,000 bail.

Clarence Jacobs, 48, of Tecumseh, Ont., was taken in custody in nearby Windsor, Ont., and O'Brien said that the fourth man named in the warrant, Peter Lombardo, 51, is serving five years in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., for possession of counterfeit money.

Reuther, then and now president of the CIO United Auto Workers Union, was shot through a kitchen window of his home April 20, 1948. A shotgun charge crippled his right arm.

His brother, Victor, was wounded in a similar attempted assassination May 24, 1949. He lost an eye. O'Brien said today's arrests did not solve the assault on Victor Reuther.

840 Ag Bio-Chem Graduates Listed

The new directory of graduates of the Department of Agricultural and Biological Chemistry lists more than 840 men and women who received degrees at the University.

The directory lists graduates of the Classes of 1910 through 1953 who are living in more than 40 states, the District of Columbia, and eight foreign countries. Five hundred and fifty-seven received B.S. degrees, 195 received master's degrees, and 89 were awarded doctorates.

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Atom-Peace Talks OK'd By U.S., Reds

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (AP)—The United States and Russia agreed tonight to hold preliminary talks concerning President Eisenhower's atom-for-peace plan.

First the Soviet Foreign Ministry in Moscow announced that Russia was ready to begin the talks—which will deal with such questions as how, when and where negotiations on the President's idea will be held.

The State department declared that Secretary of State Dulles "expects to proceed at an early date" with the conversations with the Russians.

The talks are scheduled to be held in Washington with Soviet Ambassador G. M. Zarubin speaking for Moscow.

The President's plan calls for an international pool, to which atomic powers would contribute some of their atomic energy, for research and use on such peaceful projects as medicine, industrial power, etc.

The United States has been earnestly pressing Eisenhower's atomic pool idea. The President has taken the stand that, since Russia and the United States have been unable to agree to a system for control of atomic weapons, the practical thing to do is to approach the atomic problem from another angle—a pool of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

The idea behind this is that if such a plan should work out, the cooperative effort among nations might lead eventually to cooperation on the issue of controlling or outlawing atomic weapons.

Daring Thieves Go on Spree

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (AP)—Secret Service agents quizzed four more persons today in a broadening search for \$31,700 still missing in the daring New Year's Eve theft of \$160,000 from the Federal Bureau of Engraving, the nation's paper money factory.

Authorities said some of the money—believed spirited from the heavily guarded plant in "false pockets" worn by a \$3,460-a-year employe—was passed in a whirlwind spending spree in Washington and Baltimore.

At least three automobiles, liquor and other luxuries were reported to have been purchased with stolen \$20 greenbacks as the suspects tried desperately to get rid of the "hot" money fresh from the government's printing presses.

Farm Aid Plan Costs 14 Billion in 25 Years

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (AP)—Direct federal farm aid programs have cost the government about \$14 billion since the days of the Hoover Farm Board 25 years ago.

This estimate, as calculated by the Agriculture Department, came to light at a time when the Eisenhower administration is facing the prospect of having to ask Congress for several billion dollars more to carry out the congressional price guarantees to farmers.

Byrd Declares He Will Fight Debt Increase

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (AP)—Two key senators said today they would vote for a moderate increase in the national debt limit if necessary, but Sen. Harry Byrd (D-Va.) declared anew he would fight any hike.

An administrative bill to raise the limit from \$275 billion to \$290 billion was blocked by an 11-4 vote in the Senate Finance Committee last summer.

Two members of the committee who voted against the increase at that time—Sens. Walter F. George (D-Ga.) and Ralph E. Flanders (R-Vt.)—made it known today that they are not adamant against a boost.

Byrd, however, held to his position that the administration could stay under the \$275 billion ceiling by economizing. He led the fight against the boost in the finance committee last year.

Byrd displayed a table—and on Treasury figures—which indicated the national debt would be \$271 billion, and the government's cash balance \$10.2 billion next June 30, the end of the current fiscal year.

This, the Virginia senator said, would give the government a \$9.5 billion "cushion" at the end of the financial year.

But Treasury men have argued in the past that the government's financial position worsens in the first half of the fiscal year because the biggest revenue returns come in the last half of the 12-month period.

With the national debt now within \$500 million of the statutory ceiling, Treasury officials have left no doubt that they still favor an increase.

Plane Crash Kills RAF Rugby Team

ALDBURY, England, Jan. 6 (AP) A two-engine Royal Air Force troop carrier plane carrying an RAF rugby team crashed on a blizzard swept hillside tonight, killing 15 of the 16 men aboard.

Two men were pulled alive from the wreckage strewn over the snow at Toms Hill, 30 miles north of London. One died in a hospital; the other was in critical condition. The pilot of the plane apparently became blinded by the storm and crashed into trees.

The rugby players aboard were being carried from Bovington airfield to their base at Thorney Island, in the south, after a game at Reading.

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