

# Senate Kills George Proposal

## Eisenhower Wins Victory In Constitutional Debate

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (AP)—The Senate killed by a single vote tonight the last surviving proposal to amend the Constitution and curb the president's treaty-making powers.

It was a victory for President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who had expressed unalterable opposition to the original Bricker amendment and had failed to endorse a substitute by Sen.

## Senators To Analyze Coffee Rise

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (AP)—Sen. J. Glenn Beall (R-Md.) said today his special Senate subcommittee intends to find out whether speculators have "cornered" the American coffee market and driven up prices.

Information already obtained by his group indicates "There is an ample supply of coffee in and for this country," Beall said.

"I can't understand how they can justify this additional increase of 5 to 10 cents in the retail cost of coffee per pound," he added. "We hope to find out more about that through testimony by roasters, processors and larger buyers for chain and independent retailers."

There have been widespread public protests against the high price of coffee in the last few weeks. In many stores and restaurants coffee is selling for as high as \$1.09 a pound and 15 cents a cup.

Coffee men have said the big factor in the price rise is a shortage of coffee plus increased demand. Support for the shortage idea came today from four American clubwomen who went to Brazil to investigate at the request of the Brazilian government.

Arriving in Miami, they said they saw millions of coffee trees dead of frost, and that there had been drought and insect damage besides. They predicted the shortage would last another two or three years.

## Scelba Receives Confidence Vote

ROME, Feb. 26 (AP)—Premier Mario Scelba's program of mild social reform and friendship with the West won a vote of confidence tonight from the Italian Senate.

It was the first parliamentary test for the hated foe of the Communists, and he came through by the slim margin of five votes. There were 235 senators present. The vote was 123 to 11, with two abstaining. The required majority was 118.

## Democrats Pick Leader As Gubernatorial Choice

HARRISBURG, Feb. 26 (AP)—Democratic leaders today endorsed Sen. George M. Leader, 36-year-old York County poultry farmer, for the Democratic nomination for governor.

Leader immediately pledged a campaign to stop what he described as a Republican policy of the "big fellow pushing the little fellow around" in Pennsylvania.

## Vietminh Reds Withdraw

SAIGON, Indochina, Feb. 26 (AP)—The French announced tonight the Communist-led invaders of Laos had abandoned their long-poised assault on Luang Prabang, the royal capital, and were seeking jungle cover 75 miles northward under a rain of bombs.

A French spokesman hailed the Vietminh withdrawal, which began last Tuesday, as a "great defensive victory." He said the crack rebel Division 308 had suffered heavy losses in its month-long offensive against the little capital, whose capture would have had a profound propaganda effect in Asia.

The withdrawal marked the second time in two years the Viet-

Walter F. George (D-Ga.)—the only version which reached the final voting stage.

Sixty senators from both parties supported the George amendment and only 31 opposed it, but the 31 were enough. A two-thirds majority of those present and voting it required for adoption of a constitutional amendment.

**Kilgore's Vote Decides**  
With the rollcall standing at 60-30—just enough for passage of the highly controversial measure—Sen. Harley M. Kilgore (D-W. Va.) dashed into the chamber to cast the vote which killed it.

A few minutes earlier it looked as though the George amendment was going to be approved. In a last minute surprise, Sen. William F. Knowland of California, the Republican floor leader, had announced he would vote for the George version. Until a short time before, Knowland had been leading the fight for a much milder administration amendment.

**Other Measure Vetoed**  
The Senate had just voted 61-30 to discard this White House-approved version in favor of the stronger, more restrictive measure offered by George.

The key clause of the George amendment would have provided that international agreements other than treaties could become effective as domestic law only by act of Congress. At present such agreements do not require any congressional action, while treaties must have two-thirds approval of the Senate.

The GOP leader conceded that as far as he knew Eisenhower had not changed his view that the only amendments "acceptable" were those which had just been discarded for the George draft.

But he said he thought "a dangerous tendency has developed" in the form of executive department encroachment on the legislative branch.

A motion to reconsider the 60-31 vote could be filed within two calendar days by a senator who was absent tonight or who voted "no." Three senators considered supporters of the amendment were absent—Sens. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.), Pat McCarran (D-Nev.) and Alton A. Lennon (D-N.C.).

## New Crisis Develops in Syria

BEIRUT, Lebanon, Feb. 26 (AP)—A new crisis between rival factions contending for power was reported to have developed in Syria tonight, barely 24 hours after the army forced the resignation of strong-man President Adib Shishekly.

The reports, telephoned from Damascus, the Syrian capital, said communications between the northern and southern parts of the country had been cut.

Acting under the constitution adopted under Shishekly, the Parliament met in Damascus on this Moslem holy day and proclaimed its speaker, Maahmoun el Kuzbari, as the temporary president. In a speech Kuzbari promised the election of a new president within two months and pledged to uphold the new constitution.

The Beirut newspaper Aghayat reported, however, that a group of politicians met at Homs, in northern Syria, under the chairmanship of the aging Hachem Attassi, who was deposed by Shishekly in 1951.

The report said the group declared Attassi should be interim president and demanded the reinstatement of the old constitution.

The radio at Aleppo, Syria's largest city where the revolution by army elements broke out yesterday, launched a violent attack on the Damascus regime and in a communique declared the aim of the Aleppo rebellion was not only the removal of Shishekly but the changing of the entire government and constitution. It declared the Aleppo group would continue the struggle until completely successful.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (AP)—Because of "uncertainty" in the business outlook, the Senate-House economic committee today suggested postponement of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's "flexible" farm support program. It also set up an economic watchdog committee to see whether more tax relief is needed.

The committee, headed by Rep. Jesse Wolcott (R-Mich.), voiced confidence that "any serious further recession can be avoided" if business investment and consumer spending are stimulated by "timely and courageous" measures.

The 14-member body wrote the first unanimous report in its eight-year history in appraising the President's economic report to Congress a month ago. It endorsed much of the White House program, including the broadening of social security and unemployment compensation.

But the report declared that:  
1. "Some members"—namely, all six Democrats—favor income tax relief and excise tax reductions which the administration has opposed. And the committee is creating a group to scan employment and production trends "and the need for tax action on a day-to-day basis."

The Democrats, in a statement

## Judge Defends Photograph Ban At Wable Trial

GREENSBURG, Pa., Feb. 26 (AP)—Judge Edward Bauer staunchly defended today a ban imposed by the Westmoreland County Court on picture-taking in the courthouse and jail.

The judge, who will preside at the murder trial Monday of John Wesley Wable for the slaying of two truck drivers on the Pennsylvania Turnpike told newsmen: "We must see that defendants get fair and impartial trials without outside influence. Courts are the bulwark between the individual and the public. The principal thing I'm interested in is the rights of the defendant."

The judge drew criticism from newspaper organizations last week when he said a court rule banning photographs would be enforced during Wable's trial.

"I know there's a difference of opinion about the taking of photos," Bauer said. "When it comes to making a Roman holiday out of it I'm not for it."

of "supplemental views," urged an immediate boost in the income tax exemption to \$800 for each dependent instead of \$600. Sen. Walter F. George (D-Ga.) has offered such a bill. Secretary of the Treasury George M. Humphrey last night issued a statement saying the administration "vigorously" opposes the idea.

2. Adoption now of the Eisenhower program for flexible crop supports and modernized parity "may actually place the farm family in a worse position" in the months immediately ahead "when the threat to our economic stability is so generally recognized."

3. A federal administrator of public works should be desig-

nated. The committee expressed doubt that state and local action could be taken swiftly enough, or on sufficiently massive scale, to cope with an economic emergency. It added: "If public works are to make an important contribution in solving unemployment in a serious recession, it seems clear that the federal government's credit must be substantially relied on."

4. The extent of joblessness "may not be fully reflected in current statistics" from the government agencies. The committee asked for a better accounting of shortened work-weeks and "temporary" layoffs which do not figure in the unemployment reports.

## Germans Clear Blocks to EDC

BONN, Germany, Feb. 26 (AP)—The Bundestag, lower house of Parliament, chopped away today legal obstacles to final ratification by West Germany of the European Defense Treaty.

By a vote of 334 to 144, the lawmakers approved changes in the constitution making military service compulsory for every man over 18, and declaring specifically it is legal for West Germany to join EDC. The provision for compulsory military service will enable the federal government to put a half million West Germans into the proposed six-nation army.

Throwing their full support behind Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, outspoken champion of EDC, the lawmakers approved the first major change in the constitution since it was drawn up in 1949.

Pending a ruling by the Supreme Court on a Socialist-backed suit challenging German membership in EDC as unconstitutional, President Theodor Heuss has withheld his signature from the final ratification instrument.

The Bundesrat—upper house—must also consider the changes in the constitution, but approval was considered a cinch because Adenauer has a two-thirds majority there. Adenauer's supporters now believe Heuss will be free to sign the treaty some time next month.

In addition to West Germany, ratification of EDC has been voted by both houses of Parliament in the Netherlands and the lower house in Belgium, France, Luxembourg, and Italy have yet to act. The issue faces rough going in both France and Italy.

## U.S. Initiates Parley Plans

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (AP)—The United States, in a quick follow-up to the Berlin conference, today set in motion arrangements for a 20 nation Asiatic peace parley with the Communists in Geneva April 26.

Acting on behalf of the Western Big Three, the State Department formally invited 14 Korean War allies to meet delegations of Russia, Communist China and Red-ruled North Korea in a move to convert the Korean truce into a lasting peace.

This East-West conference in neutral Switzerland was agreed upon Feb. 18 in Berlin at the wind-up of a month-long meeting with Russia's Foreign Minister Molotov.

Delegates, under terms of this understanding with Moscow, will consider means of uniting divided Korea into a single, independent nation and also the problem of "restoring peace in Indochina."

## Russian Trade Talks

LONDON, Feb. 26 (AP)—American and British officials have begun secret talks here on the possibility of easing the Western ban on sale of strategic goods to Russia, informed sources said today.

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