

Senate Sets Tomorrow For Sales Tax Vote

HARRISBURG, Feb. 28 (AP)—Senate Republicans kept to their time schedule today in driving toward passage Thursday of a 3 per cent sales tax as the GOP-controlled Finance Committee approved five revenue-raising bills.

"We'll amend the bills tomorrow and be ready for a vote on Thursday," said Sen. Edward J. Kessler (R-Lancaster), Finance Committee chairman.

The Democratic caucus is on record as opposed to a sales tax as the lone major means of raising new income to meet the Commonwealth's rising costs.

However, the Democratic leadership has offered reluctantly to supply voting help should Republicans fail to muster their full 26-vote strength.

The Senate has been the graveyard of three previous major tax plans—two of them recommended by Gov. George M. Leader and passed by the House. The third was a converted sales tax drawn by Republicans from Leader's recommended manufacturers excise tax.

The new sales tax showdown will come when a 2 per cent sales levy approved by the House as part of a bipartisan compromise tax program, including also an income tax, is increased tomorrow to 3 per cent.

Inserted also will be restaurant meals and individual clothing items costing more than \$50.

Another part of the House-passed compromise tax program will be altered to place a 3 rather than 2 per cent levy on hotel and motel rooms. Beer and liquor will be removed from the tax.

Eisenhower Government Announces Sales Plan

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (AP)—The Eisenhower administration announced today an aggressive sales program to regain a larger share of world cotton markets for the American farmer.

With White House and State Department approval, Secretary of Agriculture Benson announced that beginning Aug. 1 the government will offer its surplus stocks of cotton abroad at cut rate prices.

Two-Party Coalition Breaks In Austria Over Socialism

VIENNA, Austria, Feb. 28 (AP)—The two-party coalition government which won Austria its independence from four-power occupation collapsed today. The leaders disagreed over domestic policies, chiefly nationalization of industries.

New parliamentary elections were called for May 13 in the hope that one of the parties—the Conservative People's party or the Socialists—would win at least a margin of public support which would guide another coalition government. Neither party is expected to win an outright majority.

Cause of Break-up

The break-up of the 10-year-old coalition, one of Europe's stablest governments, was caused mainly by disagreement over the future of the little country's rich oilfields and former German property in Austria. Control of both was turned over to the government by the Russians under last year's independence treaty. Since then the partners have failed to agree on what to do with the properties.

Chancellor Julius Raab's Conservatives want private capital to share in the oil fields. The Socialists want them wholly nationalized.

Factories Seized

The big former German assets include many factories seized by the Russians after World War II. The Conservatives want some of them returned to private ownership, while the Socialists demand government control.

Differences on civil aviation control, taxation, pensions and milk prices further divide the parties. As the breach widened, Raab and Socialist Vice Chancellor Adolf Schaerf tried to settle the dispute after today's Cabinet meeting.

Mollet Appeals For Cease-Fire From Algerians

PARIS, Feb. 28 (AP)—Premier Guy Mollet solemnly appealed today to Algerian nationalist rebels for a cease-fire in their fierce and costly rebellion—and threatened them with fullscale military operations if they refuse.

The Premier coupled his move with a pledge of genuinely free elections throughout Algeria within three months of peace, and promised to negotiate a fair settlement with the Algerians once they have chosen their leadership. But he reassured French residents of Algeria that France will maintain an "indissoluble" link with Algeria, and protect their lives and property.

Mollet spoke with the endorsement of the nation's highest military advisors—the National Security Council—but he did not disclose any definite military moves.

Negro Woman to Renew 29-Month Fight Today

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 28 (AP)—A Negro woman's 29-month fight for the right to study at the all-white University of Alabama will be renewed tomorrow in a small federal courtroom here.

2 Train Wrecks Kill 13, Injure Over 100

SWAMPSCOTT, Mass., Feb. 28 (AP)—A Boston & Maine Railroad passenger train sped through two snow-obscured warning signals today and knifed into the rear of another train, killing 13 persons and injuring more than a hundred.

The B & M said a Budd train passed through a yellow caution signal 1.3 miles from the halted train and ran by a red stop signal 3200 feet from the scene of the wreck in a blinding snowstorm.

The railroad said the signals were tested after the wreck and "found to be in perfect working order," although obscured by snow and ice. The B & M said the engineer, Ernest Tourtellotte, 55, Winchester, who died in the crash, violated operating rules.

Second Wreck

A short time later, another B & M train rammed a halted train in nearby Revere, injuring 20 persons. The railroad said that mishap happened "under similar circumstances."

Some of the injured were in both wrecks.

The first wreck happened an hour and a half earlier in Swampscott, about 12 miles northeast of Boston. The four-car, self-propelled Danvers train struck a Portsmouth, N.H.-Boston train which had halted for a signal.

Wreck Investigated

The B & M, after a "preliminary investigation," said it "appears" that the Danvers-Boston train "passed a yellow caution signal located near Jefferson Avenue in Salem about 3-10 miles from the stopped train and in violation of operating rules ran by a red stop signal located in Salem about 3200 feet behind the halted train."

'Peaceful Atoms' Plan

HARRISBURG, Feb. 28 (AP)—Legislation reached the Senate today to set up a five-member temporary state atomic energy commission to get under way the development of peaceful uses of atomic energy in Pennsylvania.

The group of five bills was introduced with bipartisan sponsorship.

Dulles Refutes Critics; Firm On Optimism

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (AP)—Secretary of State John Foster Dulles stood his ground today against Democratic criticisms that he is too optimistic about the cold war.

At the same time, he said complacency could be disastrous.

Dulles spoke at a news conference in reply to questions based on Democratic criticism of statements Dulles made to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Friday and in a Philadelphia speech on Sunday. The theme of those statements was that Moscow has had to change its tactics in the face of free world unity.

Dulles declared that he disagrees with critics who contend he is looking at the cold war through rose colored glasses. He repeated that he feels free world strength and stability have caused a change in Soviet tactics from military bluster to overtures of trade and aid.

It would not be fair to say to the American people, Dulles argued, that their sacrifices in blood and treasure since the end of World War II had failed completely to cause any change inside the Kremlin.

Korean Confesses Plot

SEOUL, Feb. 28 (AP)—Kim Jai Ho, the alleged leader of five Koreans charged with conspiracy to assassinate President Syngman Rhee admitted in court today his group plotted to "eliminate" the president.

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