

Educators Continue Talk On Federal School Aid

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Jan. 8 (AP)—American educators batted the hows, whys and wherefores of federal aid to education around like a basketful of hot potatoes today, then gave up even trying to reach an agreement until tomorrow.

The annual convention of the Association of American Colleges was handed its first thorny issue when a special committee recommended that federal aid be in the form of tax credits to individuals and corporations contributing to the support of the country's institutions of higher learning.

Efforts to get speedy approval of the idea failed in a somewhat stormy morning session. Further debate was first scheduled for this afternoon, then postponed until the closing session tomorrow morning.

The AAC has traditionally found itself divided on the question of federal aid to education. Those who oppose it say it carries a threat of federal control. Those who approve it say the country's educational needs can't be met without it.

The tax credit proposal came from a group opposed to federal aid, headed by J. Ollie Edmunds, president of both the AAC and Stetson University. It was offered as an alternative to President Eisenhower's proposal of a billion dollars in federal money distributed over a four-year period.

Under the plan, individuals making tuition or fee payments, and individuals or corporations making contributions to educational institutions would be allowed to deduct a portion of their payments or contributions directly from their income tax bills. Such a plan is reported to be under consideration by a congressional committee now.

Opposition to the plan was immediate and vocal. The special committee which drew it up went back into secret session late today in an effort to find something more palatable.

Dean Louis M. Hacker of Columbia University, who opposes the whole idea of federal aid to education, said it meant only that the federal government would have to find new sources of revenue—"which it always does by raising taxes."

U.S. 'Leading' In Atomic Power

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (AP)—The United States leads the world in the scope of its program to develop "safe, efficient and competitive" electric power from atomic fission, Chairman Lewis L. Strauss of the Atomic Energy Commission said today.

He also said both the United States and Great Britain, in a cooperative effort, have made considerable progress toward taming the H bomb reaction — atomic fusion—as another source of power.

Strauss, at a news conference, offered no timetable on when industrial power from fission might become economical although he indicated that recent developments have been encouraging.

But he declared that attainment of practical peacetime power from hydrogen or thermonuclear energy is still "years and years" away.

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Eisenhower Working On Annual Talk

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (AP)—Amid clamor in Congress about the nation's defenses, President Eisenhower worked on a State of the Union message that could be as crucial as any in U.S. history.

The annual presidential report, to be delivered in person Thursday, will be the focus of attention because of a widespread belief the country is imperiled by Russia's scientific military advances.

The great argument on the subject continued and was typified by contrasting views:

1. Vice President Nixon declared it is unmitigated nonsense to say the United States is weaker than the Soviet Union.

2. Lt. Gen. James M. Gavin, sticking to his decision to quit, said the Army is rapidly deteriorating and "I can't get anything done" on certain proposals to strengthen it.

3. Gen. Thomas D. White, Air Force chief of staff, was reported to have taken the stand, in testimony to senators, that the Eisenhower administration's new missile program is inadequate.

Sen. Lyndon Johnson (D-Tex.) said White declared that the administration has not asked for enough money to do the job.

Dulles States Futility Of Proposed Talks

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (AP) — Secretary of State John Foster Dulles told congressmen emphatically today there is no point now in holding new summit talks with the Russians.

Both Democratic and Republican members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee seemed to agree with Dulles on this point after a three hour secret briefing, which also touched on most other major international issues.

Committee members gave reporters a partial fill in on the testimony.

The oft-criticized secretary faced little hostile questioning from members of either party during his appearance before the House group, those who attended the closed session said. But he was asked about troubles simmering within the Republican family.

Brucker Okays Gavin's Quitting

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (AP)—Wilbur M. Brucker, secretary of the Army announced today he is "reluctantly approving" Lt. Gen. James M. Gavin's request for retirement from the Army.

The Pentagon official said he had tried once more to get the general to change his mind, even after Gavin had informed the Senate Preparedness subcommittee today that his decision to retire was final.

Gavin had announced last weekend that he planned to retire because he was in basic disagreement with several Defense Department policies.

He told the Senate subcommittee today the Army's position is deteriorating rapidly and "I can't get anything done" about it.

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