

Senate Defeats Motion To Hike 2nd Class Mail

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—The Senate today defeated 71-17 an effort by Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) to increase second-class postal rates for newspapers and magazines by 30 per cent during each of the next three years.

Morse first proposed a 40 per cent increase in each of the next three years but just before the roll call vote he revised this to 30 per cent.

'Never Been Influenced' Says Mack

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—Richard A. Mack denied under a barrage of questions today that he has been influenced by anybody in his 2½ years on the Federal Communications Commission.

Mack emerged smiling but obviously tired from a day-long session before the House Legislative Oversight subcommittee standing firm on a determination not to resign under fire.

"Of course not" was his reply to questions about the possibility of his quitting. The question followed in the wake of testimony linking him financially with a Miami lawyer who for a time backed the successful bid of a National Airlines subsidiary for a Miami TV license.

Mack did say on the witness stand, however, that for all practical purposes he had put his finances completely in the hands of the attorney and his lifelong friend, Thurman A. Whiteside.

The commissioner said he had only the haziest knowledge of how more than \$10,000 in loans and advances made to him by Whiteside in recent years were repaid.

And he testified he knew little or nothing about a Miami insurance agency in which Whiteside gave him a one-sixth interest, or about a holding company which the Miami lawyer likewise turned over to him—with no outlay of money on Mack's part in either case.

The Senate bill, on which final action was deferred until tomorrow, carries second-class rate increases of 10 per cent during each of the next three years on editorial and news matter and 20 per cent on advertising content.

In other actions the Senate:

- Refused by a roll call vote of 47-40 to knock out the 5-cent rate on nonlocal letters which it adopted last night by a vote of 49-42.
- Today's vote was on a motion by Sen. A. S. "Mike" Monroney (D-Okla.), who sought to limit the increase on first-class mail, local and unlocal, to 4 cents. The present rate is 3 cents.

- Voted to permit U.S. Servicemen stationed overseas to send letters back to this country free of charge. Sponsors of this provision, Sens. Morse, Ralph Yarborough (D-Tex.) and William Proxmire (D-Wis.), dropped a clause that would have permitted letters to be sent free to servicemen overseas.

- Rejected 57-33 an amendment by Sens. Joseph S. Clark (D-Pa.) and Proxmire to limit to \$1,800,000 a year the amount of mail subsidy that any magazine publisher could receive.

Clark said the annual postal subsidy to magazines amounts to over 32 million dollars.

Red Central Committee OK's Farm Revolution

MOSCOW, Feb. 27 (AP)—The Communist party's powerful Central Committee gave its chief, Nikita S. Khrushchev, the go-ahead signal today for a far-reaching revolution in Soviet agriculture.

The committee, after a two-day session, announced endorsement of Khrushchev's proposals to shift ownership of the nation's farm machinery from the machine-tractor stations to collective farms.

Federal Bodies To Fight State Unemployment

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—Two federal agencies agreed today to join in Pennsylvania's fight against rising unemployment by speeding their processing of public works projects.

Gov. George M. Leader of Pennsylvania reported that Bertram D. Tallamy, federal highways administrator, agreed to expedite the handling of some 28 million dollars worth of interstate road building projects in the Commonwealth.

A similar promise to accelerate housing projects scheduled for Pennsylvania came from Federal Housing Administrator Albert M. Cole, Leader said.

The governor visited the heads of the two agencies after a lively 2½ hour meeting with most of Pennsylvania's congressional delegation in which ways to combat unemployment in the state were discussed.

The governor said he came to Washington to urge federal agencies to adopt the same "spirit of acceleration" of public works projects that he said he has been attempting to instill in Pennsylvania.

"I was pleased to find that some of them already felt that way and are ready and anxious to cooperate with us," Leader told newsmen.

GOP Leaders Push Dismissal

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—Two Republican congressmen called on President Eisenhower in person today to urge that Secretary of Agriculture Benson get out of the government.

One of them, Rep. A. L. Miller of Nebraska, said afterward: "I don't think he (Benson) will be fired and I'm not sure he will quit."

He and Rep. Philip Weaver, also of Nebraska, said they told Eisenhower that if Benson stays in office this will so offend farm voters that the Republicans might lose 20 to 30 of their U.S. House seats and perhaps four governorships.

Miller said Eisenhower was sympathetic and friendly to them, but at the same time entirely loyal to Benson. Eisenhower gave Benson firm support at his news conference yesterday, as he has on numerous occasions when various persons wanted the secretary dropped.

British Airliner Crashes

BOLTON, England, Feb. 27 (AP)—An airliner crowded with jovial car dealers crashed today into a blizzard-whipped mountain, killing 35 men.

Red Emissary Here To Bind East, West

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—Soviet Ambassador Mikhail Menshikov, pressing his friendlier-than-thou campaign in an Associated Press interview, urges more visits, more trade and even joint U.S.-Soviet economic aid programs.

"I came here with the sole purpose to help improve the relations of our countries," he told the AP in a red-and-gold parlor at the Soviet Embassy.

As a No. 1 target he singled out the U.S. embargo on certain trade with Russia. The purpose of the embargo is to withhold items which might further the Soviet war potential, Menshikov said it has failed, serving only to increase tensions.

"All of this didn't cause any harm to our country and, second, your country didn't gain anything," he said. "Certain business circles in this country lost the trade as a result. And of course the whole thing added a little bit to the tensions between the two countries. That is all it produced."

Menshikov's words illuminated why he was chosen to replace gruff, black-browed Georgi Zorubov as ambassador. He is blond and easy-going, with a toothpaste ad smile. He speaks American rather than English, accented just enough to make it interesting. He is also, at 55, a college-trained economist and a student of international trade.

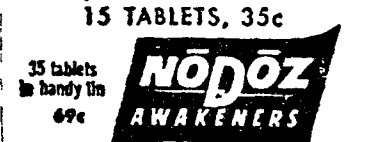
The private interview, with no

questions barred, was one of the first Menshikov has granted since his arrival three weeks ago. But he served notice he is available.



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Army Tests Redstone Missile; Vanguard Launching Postponed

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla., Feb. 27 (AP)—An Army Redstone missile streaked upward for more than two minutes today, vanishing after a puff of white smoke as a silver pin-prick in the blue Florida sky.

The 200-mile-range missile, aimed at a preselected impact area down the Atlantic Ocean range, was launched at 3 p.m., after standing all night in the rain and wind.

The same wind and rain had forced postponement of the firing of the more delicate Vanguard satellite launcher until next week.

It was not announced whether the Redstone had hit its target area.

The Redstone is in production and in the hands of U.S. Army troops. A modified Redstone forms the first stage of the satellite-launching Jupiter-C vehicle.

For about half an hour after its gantry or working crane was

rolled back, the Redstone stood slender and white. Alternately it was bathed in sunlight or nearly lost in cloud shadow.

Then orange-yellow flame shot from its tail. It rose slowly at first, gathering speed and piercing the clouds like a fragile white needle.

The Redstone arched slightly toward the southwest trailing a long expanding cloud of vapor for maybe 20 seconds. Then after the vapor suddenly disappeared, the Redstone belched another short tail of smoke.

From a vantage point six miles from the launching site, the firing seemed silent at first. But then the slow traveling sound caught up and grew like a distant roll of thunder.

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