

# Speaker Rayburn Quits As Convention Chairman

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-Tex.) bowed out yesterday from his traditional role as chairman of the Democratic National Convention.

His action, in the form of a "do not choose" announcement, appeared to have put in high gear a drive to land the party's

## Johnson Wins Senate Vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Democrats gave Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas a 51-12 vote of confidence last night.

By that majority the Democratic senators rejected a motion by Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.), to strip Johnson of his authority to appoint members of the party's policy committee.

Gore also included in his motion a provision to enlarge the nine-member Senate Democratic Policy Committee.

## Ike Will Vacation In Palm Springs

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower will vacation in the area of Palm Springs, Calif., for four or five days starting Jan. 28.

Announcing this last night, the White House said the President will arrive in Palm Springs the morning of Jan. 28 after speaking in Los Angeles the previous evening at a Republican "Salute to Ike" campaign dinner.

presidential nomination for Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas.

Rayburn told his news conference he has "a great desire to see one convention from the floor." He said he will not accept the post of convention chairman he filled in 1948, 1952 and 1956.

"When you are tied to that chairmanship up there," Rayburn said, "you see the convention from the front. I'd like to see it from both sides."

Rayburn added significantly that as a floor delegate he would have a better chance "to work for the candidate of my choice." He has announced his support of Johnson as a Texas favorite son candidate who, he said, would have wide appeal in other areas.

Johnson has said he is not a nomination but would take a look at the situation if the convention at Los Angeles next July seemed to want him.

Rayburn's action was interpreted, however, as confirming the growing indications that Johnson considers himself a serious contender and not just a holding candidate who might be influential in the naming of another as a nominee.

# New Cabinet Post May Be Created

WASHINGTON (AP) — Creation of a new senior cabinet post of secretary of foreign affairs was proposed in a foreign policy study released last night.

The new secretary would serve as the president's chief deputy on all matters of foreign policy and head up a reorganized State Department.

The Brookings Institution, a Washington research organization, said, "the move would help the United States meet the heavy responsibilities facing it at a critical phase in its history."

The recommendations would pattern the State Department somewhat along the lines of the Defense Department by creating three new secretaries to serve under the senior secretary.

In a study made for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the research group proposed setting up within the new Department of Foreign Affairs three component departments. Each would be headed by a secretary of cabinet rank. They would be known as the Department of State, the Department of Foreign Economic Operations and the Department of Information and Cultural Affairs.

# British Novelist Dies of Stroke

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — British novelist Nevil Shute died of a stroke yesterday in Melbourne, the city he pictured in "On the Beach" as a scene in mankind's final destruction from cobalt radiation of World War III. He was 60.

Shute had suffered a series of heart attacks. These caused him to give up yachting, motor racing and flying even while he went on quietly writing best sellers and looking after the livestock on his farm overlooking the sea.

The author, whose real name was Nevil Shute Norway, was stricken on the farm, at Langwarring, at 1:30 p.m. Rushed the 29 miles to Melbourne, he lapsed into a coma at the hospital and died at 8:30 p.m.

His death came less than a

month after the simultaneous world premiere in more than a dozen cities of the film version of "On the Beach," his most successful work.

Shute did not like the movie, produced by Stanley Kramer. He refused to attend the Melbourne premiere because he considered Kramer had misused the right to make alterations in the script.

The message of both the film and the book, however, was the same: Humanity dying out, by radiation sickness or suicide, in the wake of a short war in 1962 that quickly poisoned all the northern hemisphere and then drifted its lethal clouds across the equator toward Antarctica.

Most of his novels, from "Marazan" in 1926 to "On the Beach," published in 1957, were keyed either to events of the day or to fictional forecasts concerning some grim, catastrophic day in the future.

## Higher Postal Rate Will Be Requested

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower again will ask Congress to increase postal rates—a request that was turned down last year, Rep. Charles A. Halleck of Indiana said yesterday.

Halleck, the Republican House leader, did not say in talking to reporters how much of an increase would be requested or give any other details.

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