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TODAY and TOMORROW

Sharp division between Senator Taft of Ohio and Congressman Knutson of Minnesota over the latter's tax reduction bill, acrid senate debate over confirmation of David Lilienthal as chairman of the Atomic Energy commission, action of the GOP majority in the house to gag opponents of the measure slashing appropriations for the labor and social security departments and the tendency on the part of some members of congress to discard tradition and invade the rights of the executive and judicial branches of the government, were highlights of the past week on Capitol Hill.

There is opinion expressed in some sources that President Truman may veto the portal-to-portal bill, which has passed both houses on the ground that it goes too far and invalidates important sections of other labor laws, notably the fair labor standards act. There is also considerable speculation that in the light of the language of the President's message to congress, he may use the veto on the tax bill should it go through the senate in its present form.

The house has passed two appropriation measures, one for the treasury and postoffice departments and the other for the labor and social security departments GOP proponents of the measures claim cuts in appropriations of about 890 million dollars on the treasury appropriation and some $77,800,000 on the labor department appropriation making a total cut on the two measures of approximately $967,8000,000. The facts are, however, that of the 890 million dollars cut in the treasury appropriation, some 803 million dollars was out of money asked for tax refunds for the bureau of internal revenue. This amount will have to be paid out the treasury eventually, so the cut actually amounts to less than 90 million dollars. On the second appropriation cut, some 72 million dollars actually was cut from the labor department, but instead of 50 million dollars for the social security administration for the Hill-Burton national hospital construction, act the GOP house committee made 150 million dollars available for this purpose, so actually the appropriation bill calls for approximately 72 million dollars more than the budget estimate instead of the cut of 77 million dollars as claimed. So the overall cut in the two appropriation bills to date amounts to only about 28 million dollars net, instead of the 967 million dollars claimed.

Congress has spent the first three months of its existence largely in organization and conducting hearings. No major legislation of national import has passed both houses. A presidential succession measure, calling for a constitutional amendment and ratification by two-thirds of the states, is the only major bill.

On the agricultural front, nothing has been done on a general overall agricultural program. Two bills with national significance have been acted on, since both houses passed a bill authoirzing the secretary of agriculture to cooperate with the Mexican government in stamping out the hoof and mouth disease in that country. It carried a 9 million dollar appropriation. The other bill was a house-passed bill extending the program for importation of farm labor until December 31, 1947, and providing for its liquidation on that date.

Farm organizations, generally, have not been active as yet in the fight over the farm labor program but several, particularly livestock associations, were interested in the hoof and mouth disease bill. A sub-committee of the house agricultural committee held hearings on a fertilizer shortage and made six recommendations, none of them concerned with legislation, in its preliminary report. The committee urged that conversion of tank cars from petroleum to fertilizer be expedited, that the war department and other government agencies review their fertilizer-export commitments, and that the import of Canadian fertilizer materials be expedited.

These were emergency recommendations and had no bearing on the long-range fertilizer program fight shaping [illegible].



NEW PRO TENNIS LEAGUE . . . Bobby Riggs, left, world's professional tennis champion, is shown in a huddle with Tony Owen, center, and Vincent Richards. Formation of the world's professional tennis league and the appointment of Richards as commissioner was announced by Owen, president of the new league. Riggs heads the list of 16 top players who will compete in the first tourney under league auspices.

Telephone Strike Causes Much Inconvenience Here As National Deadlock Continues

The telephone strike, which has blacked out all telephone communications in Cambridge this week, has been going on in an orderly manner, with little excitement. Pickets have been marching up and down in front of the Chesapeake nd Potomac Central building on Street all the week and attracted quite a lot of attention for he first few days, as it was an unusual sight in the county. Office workers of the company, although not on strike, refused to cross the picket line and, as a consequence, he company's office service has been seriously curtailed.

Because all local phones are till manually operated, it has been impossible to do any telephoning with the exception of emergency calls. Outside Cambridge, however many towns which are on the dial system, have service as usual with the exception of ong distance calls. The local service where dial phones are in use is normal.

At the central office in Cambridge supervisory officers have cots and eating facilities in the building and are handling the switchboard in an efficient manner considering their difficulties. At he office today it was said that all calls are being given immediate attention and if they can be classed as emergency they are put through with very little delay. The personnel are getting tired, however, and said they will be glad when the strike is over.

The public as a whole has been very cooperative and understanding, officers here said today, with few patrons getting tough about the situation.

AUTO DEMANDS EXCEED SUPPLY

If you have been withholding your order for a new automobile because you want a radically different model, you may as well count upon waiting a year or more.

There will be some new models out late this summer and more before the year's end, but orders on file will absorb virtually all of them.

Industry circle are speculating more widely than ever on how long the present backlog of unfilled orders will stand up against a production rate that will account for close to 4,000,000 passenger cars this year.

Only a small part of the demand represented in the orders on file comes from the car industry's own wage earners. Most of their cars usually are bought in the used-car market.

But used cars are not overly plentiful and those in fairly good condition cost more than many new vehicles did before the war.

POSTAL BUSINESS UP BUDGET CUT HIT

Acting Postmaster J. M. Donaldson told Senators that the "postal business is on an upward trend but asked restoration of at least $3,269,200 slashed by the House from the Department's budget for the next fiscal year.

The House cut nearly $14,556,000 from requested funds for the Postal Department in approving $1,530,733,250 for its operations in the 12 months beginning July 1.

Mr. Donaldson told a Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that postal revenues are expected to exceed estimates this year and in the next fiscal year. He said that postal receipts, which are turned into the Treasury, are running about $16,252,000 above estimates of $1,222,948,000 for the fiscal year ending next June 30.

BASEBALL PARK BEING BUILT AT OCEAN CITY

A baseball park is under construction next to the airport at Ocean City, and major league clubs are being contracted so the resort can enter the Eastern Shore Class D League next year, Robert L. Cropper of the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, said this week. "It is expected that Ocean City will have a ball club this summer," he said. "But every effort is being made to have a team in the league by next year."

SMOKERS BLAMED IN 11 OF 33 FIRES

Eleven of the 33 fires which burned over an estimated 1,600 acres of woods and grassland in the State Monday and Tuesday were caused by careless smokers Henry C. Buckingham, acting State forester, said last night.

Of the rest of the fires, Mr. Buckingham said eight had been traced to improper burning of trash, two to sparks from locomotives and three had been set by small boys.

No fires were reported yesterday, Mr. Buckingham said, pointing out that the danger had diminished with Tuesday night's rain.

Stressing the rules of the Department of Forestry, which requires that trash be burned in county areas only ofter 4 P. M. when there is no wind, and that the fire be safeguarded by a clearing ten feet wide around it.

BAN ON RATE CASE HEARING IS UEGED

Philip H. Dorsey, Jr., people's counsel before the Public Service Commission, asked the commission this week to refuse to hear testimony by C. O. Briddell, engineer for the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore city.

At the time, Mr. Briddell, who was not present at the hearying on permanent telephone rate increases, was not scheduled to appear before the commission until next week. The company is asking an increase of $1,860,000 over and above the $3,500,000 temporary boost authorized two months ago.

Mr. Dorsey, who contended that Mr. Briddell's testimony was concerned with "reproduction costs," asked the commission to bar evidence with regard to such costs. He said the company planned to show costs "43 per cent" above the original costs of plants and property.

In reply, Clarence W. Miles, attorney for the company insisted that Mr. Briddell's testimony would relate rather to "current costs" but agreed that "the present day cost is very much in excess of the original cost."

(Editor's note — "Reproduction cost" is defined by Webster's Dictionary as "the estimated expense of replacing or duplicating an asset with a new one of equal effectiveness." The phrase "current cost" is not definel.)

Lower Prices For Food Seen By Next Fall

There is a general disposition in the food industry to get inventories down because of the uncertainty of future price levels, Gordon C. Corbaley, president of the Institute of Food Distribution, said here.

Stating that there is no panicky atmosphere in cutting down stocks by retailers, wholesalers, and processors, Mr. Corbaley added that the industry has leaned toward getting inventories in better shape since last December.

"There has been a feeling that some prices were too high and that over a period of time some would come down," he said. "Despite the bulge in cereal and some other commodity prices, the average of all retail food prices is easing downward fractionally month by month."

In Washington, the Department of Agriculture said farm prices should holds at "high levels during the next few months," but repeated its previous forecast they would turn downward during the second half of the year, possibly as much as 20 per cent. That prediction was said to be based largely upon expection of a slight industrial recession later this year.

Paul Willis, president of Grocery Manufacturers of America, expects a gradual stabilization of prices at somewhat lower levels.

"There will be some price declines and also some price increases. It is my guess that there will be a greater number of declines than otherwise," he added.

A spokesman for one of the largest retail food chains, who preferred not to be named, said that with "supply and demand meeting head on" retailers are ordering supplies "practically on a day to day basis."

Clarence Francis, chairman of the board of General Foods Corp., said food prices are still climbing and may continue to climb for a little while longer.

"But larger crops are in the offing. The law of supply and demand is waiting at the head of the stairs to push food prices back in line—and I don't think the head of the stairs is so very far away," Mr. Francis added.

He said General Foods is not buying any raw materials except those needed to keep its production lines moving.

STATE TO OPERATE MOBILE X-RAY UNIT

A new mobile x-ray unit will be turned over to the Maryland State Department of Health by the X-Ray Division of Westinghouse Electric Corporation, on Wednesday, April 9th it was announced by Dr. Robert H. Riley, Director, State Department of Health.

This trailer-type unit will spearhead the State's expanding drive against tuberculosis. It provides complete facilities for mass chest x-ray examinations in every locality. It is a post-war version of equipment widely used during the war by both military service and industry.

Because of the fact that people have shown a reluctance to come to clinics for chest x-rays, the state is using this means of bringing clinics to the people. This greater convenience should go a long way toward overcoming the popular indifference to chest x-rays.

The tractor and trailer includes three separate compartments, one containing x-ray equipment, one a dark room for immediate on-the scene development of films and a third fitted as an office. The body is completely insulated and an oil and two electric heating units are designed to insure comfortable operation during cold weather. The laboratory space is cooled by an electric fan, and another electric exhaust fan is used to ventilate the dark room.

This unit will be available on request to the State Department of Health. It will be operated by the state in cooperation with the Md. Tuberculosis Assoc.

Oyster Season Has Been Good One For Tongers

The oyster season now growing o a close has been one of the most prosperous, from the watermen's oint of view, in several years, it was said today. Packers also have had a good year, it is said, although labor troubles and a shortage of oysters have plagued them throughout.

The season started off slow last all, but as soon as the first cool weather apepared the price of oysters jumped and the demand during the winter was far above supply. Tongers have had one of the best years in the memory of the oldest heads in the business. A comparatively mild and open winter also helped as they were able o work on the bars with little lost ime.

SNEAKBOAT DUCK HUNTING ALLOWED

Duck hunters are following closely the progress of a bill introduced last week in the House of Delegates by a member of the Worcester delegation proposing the prohibition of sneakboat duck shooting on the Susquehanna flats.

Introduction of the new bill followed closely an unfavorable report made last week by the Agricultural Resources Committee of the House on a bill intended to permit Marylanders to shoot ducks from sneakboats in all waters of Maryland not less than 2,000 yards in land not less than 2,000 yards in width.

The proposal to prohibit sneak boat shooting on the flats was reported based on a contention that laws which permit sneakboat shooting in one section, yet deny it in others, are discriminatory in nature.

Jonathan Longfellow, of Salisbury, member of the State Game and Island Fish Commission and the State Game Warden Ernest Vaughn, headed proponents of the state-wide bill on which the unfavorable report was returned. The two conservationists contended that they favored the statewide measure House Bill No. 623 because it would provide opportunities for hunters with "thin" pocketbooks to enjoy the sport.

It has been learned that Delegate E. Peter Richardson of Berlin, introduced the new measure providing repeal of sections of Maryland law which permit sneakboat shooting on the Susquehanna flats, after its drafting at the request of Maurice A. Atkins, of Salisbury. Atkins stated that he represented the Tri-State Sportsmen's Club and six affiliated clubs of the Eastern Shore Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. He also disclosed that the clubs he represented had previously favored passage of the state-wide sneakboat shooting bill.

Principal opposition to the state-wide measure is reported to have come from owners of ducking properties, notably from Dorchester County, who pointed the riparian rights of property owners.

C. & P. S. CHANGES DISTRICT MANAGERS

The Eastern Shore Public Service Company has announced three hanges in the District Managership of its company offices.

J. L. Disharoon, a native of Salisbury, and formerly District Manager in Millsboro, Delaware, has been appointed District Manager in Salisbury, to succeed J. R. Wilson, recently promoted to heposition of Division Manager of the Cambridge Division. Mr. Disharoon has been with the company approximately twenty-four years and has been located in Salisbury before, as well as in Ocean City, and most recently, Millsboro. His many friends in Salisbury will be glad to learn of his return.

Wesley Bullock, formerly district manager in Crisfield will succeed Mr. Disharoon as district manager in Millsboro. Mr. Bullock has served the company in Federalsburg and Oxford, before going to Crisfield.

C. A. Turner, formerly local supervisor in Cambridge, has been appointed district manager in Crisfield, to succeed Mr. Bullock. Mr. Turner has held positions in the company in Salisbury, Millington and Denton, Maryland, and Laurel and Harrington in Delaware, before going to Cambridge.



NATIVE CHIEFS MEET KING ON AFRICAN TOUR . . . Wearing heavy leopard skin robes, symbol of their high office, despite the intense heat of the sun, these four chiefs of the Basutos await their turn to be greeted by King George during the British ruler's tour of South Africa. These four chiefs are known as the "Sons of Moslesh," being direct descendants of the Great Moslesh, founder of the Basutos.

Sportsmen From All Parts Of Maryland Plan To Meet At Ocean City

Carl Wittelsberger, president of the Ocean City Sportsmen's Club, announced at a recent meeting of the resort of Business Men's Association that the League of Maryland Sportsmen plans to hold its annual convention at Ocean City on June 13, 14 and 15. "The League is composed of some 7,000 members in 65 affiliated Clubs throughout the State, he stated, "and the local Club and the League of Sportsmen's Clubs of the Eastern Shore will play hosts to other Maryland League at the summer convention.

Members at the meeting of the Association were particularly glad to hear President Frank Sacca say that a representative of the War Department last week surveyed the channel marking lights through the inlet in response to a recent request of the organization for modification of the lights Some time ago it had been stressed by the body that changes were absolutely imperative, because the channel had shifted to a great extent in the past few years, rendering the markers confusing to boat skippers. During the recent winter it has been pointed out several mishaps might have been avoided if the lights were differently situated.

Seafood Plans Are Not Cancelled, Says Delegate

Construction of the $75,000 technological sea-food laboratory at Crisfield was not canceled when the Legislature removed the item from its construction loan bill, Delegate John E. Clark, chairman of the House Conservation Committee, this week told a meeting of the State Board of Natural Resources.

Monies already had been allocated and were available to the Board of Public Works before the meeting of the Legislature. Inclusion of an additional $75,000 was made inadvertantly in the preparation of the loan bill and removed when discovered, Mr. Clark said.

Mr. Clark made this announcement after Dr. R. V. Truitt, head of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, at Solomons, had suggested that the board bring pressure to allocate funds for the laboratory's construction.

This week meeting of the resources board, held in the board room of the Fidelity and Deposit Company, was devoted to discussion of legislation passed by the General Assembly.

Although the Department of Tidewater Fisheries was unsuccessful in obtaining permission to lease oyster bars, the recent session "was one of the most successful sessions yet as far as tidewater fisheries are concerned," Edwin Warfield, Jr., chairman of the board, said.

One of the most important conservation acts passed, he said, was the one which would make compulsory the return to the bay of 75 per cent of the oyster shells removed.

A 5-cent-gallon tax would pay the oystermen for returning 65 per cent of the shells. They are required now by law to return ten per cent.

He praised other laws, including the one providing trial in Maryland courts for Virginians accused of dredging in the Potomac River, and the compulsory planting of oysters on natural bars, which he said would eliminate much waste of good shells.

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USE WHITE FLAG AS EMERGENCY SIGNAL

The Superintendent of the Maryland State Police has requested hat in the event of telephone communication failure, and when an emergency exists requiring communication at any given time and point, the people involved should isplay a white flag. This can be nade from an old sheet or towel. The Maryland State Police cars on patrol will be on the alert for his signal and will render all assistance possible. This will be a permanent distress signal and hall remain as such.

THREE-HOUR REPRIEVE FOR TAX LAGGARDS

Many Maryland taxpayers who do not get around to filling out heir State income tax blanks until he last minute, will have at least three-hour reprieve next Tuesday.

The income tax division announced today that the Baltimore and Annapolis offices will not shut heir doors until 8 P.M., April 15 he deadline for filing returns.

Normally the offices close at 5 P.M., but on the last day aides will remain three extra hours to help persons who have trouble completing their forms.

ROMANCOKE FERRY TO RESUME OPERATION

Early resumption of ferry service between Romancoke and Claiborne, suspended more than a year ago, was announced by the State Roads Commission.

The Gov. Emerson C. Harrington, which was removed from service on the Easter Shore route on December 9, 1945, for conversion from coal to Diesel equipment, will be taken on a trial run April 14.

If the test trip is successful, the boat may be restored to service the following day, officials of the commission said.

Strikes in mid-Western manufacturing plants had delayed delivery of parts for the Harrington, as they had the motor equipment for the new Gov. Herbert R. O'Conor, now assigned to the Sandy Point Matapeake run.

The Harrington has been in dry dock at the Baltimore Marine Repair Works.

No schedule for the trips between Romancoke and Claiborne has been announced, but it is expected service will be limited to thirteen hours a day as in the past.

With its new engines the Harrington is expected to better its former running time of 45 minutes.

New Schedule Of Benefits For Idle Now In Force

Changes made by the General Assembly in the Unemployment Compensation Law are now in effect according to Russell S. Davis, Chairman of Employment Security Board. The weekly benefit amount has been changed from $7.00 to $6.00 minimum while the maximum has been increased from $20.00 to $25.00 per week.

The new sections of the act as amended affecting an employee in covered employment provides that he must be actively seeking work in addition to registering for work with the State Employment Office in his locality.

An employee is now disqualified from receiving benefits should he voluntarily quit without good cause or refuse to accept suitable work. He is also denied benefits for wilful misconduct, dishonesty, criminal acts or for acts endangering safety of others.

Calling particular attention to the changes affecting employers, Mr. Davis stated that employer experience ratings had been reduced to a minimum of 0.3 percent for the employer on payrolls up to $3000 per employee. Experience ratings less than 2.7 percent will exist as long as the jobless benefit fund equals or is greater than 5 percent total payrolls of the previous year.

The act provides that employers must notify the board in writing of each new employee they hire. Failure to do so, provides the penalty of from $2.00 to $10.00 for each individual not recorded.

The amended act provides for a new name for the Board. It is Employment Security Board. The Board is responsible for the administration of the Department of Employment Security. The two coordinate divisions of the Department are named Division of Unemployment Compensation; and Division of Employment Service.

FEDERAL JUDGE ASSAILS LEWIS

Federal Judge T. Alan Goldsborough describing John L. Lewis as "utterly contemptuous" of the Federal courts, today held up for at least two weeks a refund of $2,800,000 of he $3,500,000 contempt fine he had imposed on the AFL United Mine Workers union.

Meanwhile, developments on another front served to bolster indications that the initiative in the soft coal fight had passed to the Government.

not only had the Judicial branch put the UMW president on notice that his actions in the present "safety" stoppage were under scrutiny, but J. A. Krug, Secretary of the Interior, whom Lewis had blamed for the recent Centralia (I.) disaster, hit back today with the charge that the UMW had "an almost unbroken record of neglect" in helping the Government promote mine safety.

Krug, who operates the nation's soft coal pits for the Government, appeared before a Senate Public Lands subcommittee investigating the Illinois explosion which killed 111 miners.

Judge Goldsborough, associate judge of the United States District Court here, whose original contempt ruling against Lewis and the UMW was upheld by the Supreme Court, declared that the defendants ""have not shown good faith up to this moment" in compliance with the high tribunal's mandate.

SUGAR STAMP 11 NOW VALID

Spare ration stamp No. 11 was validated April 1 for another ten pounds of sugar to each household consumer.

OPA officials said the stamp will be good through September 30. Stamp No. 53 which provided a five-pound allowance, expired March 31.

OPA previously had announced that another stamp good for ten pounds probably would be validated July 1, with a third one likely to be made good around October 1. However, since Congress ordered sugar controls transferred from OPA to the Agriculture Department, effective last midnight, it is possible that some change may be made in this tentative schedule.