Congressmen Trade Blows In Housing Bill Debate

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★★★★★ Final

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Weather

Partly cloudy, warm and humid next two days with a few widely scattered showers.

Temperature at 2 P. M. today ... 89
High and low past 24 hours ... 88-71

More Weather Data on page 10-A

CITY TO FIGHT FOR BETTER BUS SERVICE

Acheson Urges Action On Pact, Arms Aid

Sabath And Cox Tangle On Floor

Fight Takes Place Over Debate Time

WASHINGTON — (AP) — A punch swinging encounter between 83-year-old Rep. Sabath (D-Ill) and Rep. Cox (D-Ga) took place on the House floor today, touched off by dispute over the Administration's Housing bill.

An eye witness, Rep. Walter (D-Pa), said Cox, who is in his 60s, slapped Sabath in the mouth and knocked off his glasses.

He said Sabath countered with a one-two right and left to Cox's face before they were parted.

The unbilled one-rounder came during a quorum call to get more members to the floor for the start of debate on the housing bill.

Walter said it began in an argument over whether Sabath would give Cox time to talk.

DEBATE BITTER

There had been a bitter previous debate, with Sabath jumping on the "real estate lobby" and pleading with the House to help "deserving American citizens" who are crying for housing.

Then came the quorum call. That stops business and reporters in the gallery over the chamber went outside to write. The scrap between Sabath and Cox sent them rushing downstairs to the floor, where Walter told them that this happened:

Sabath was sitting down at a table when Cox came up, leaned over and asked for ten minutes to make a speech.

Sabath, as chairman of the Rules Committee, is portioning out time for debate over what rule the housing legislation shall be considered under.

Sabath told Cox he didn't have that much time.

Cox called him a "liar".

Then, Walter went on:

"Cox slapped him in the mouth and knocked off his glasses. Sabath jabbed him back, a right and a left to the face. A pair of beauties."

About then, Rep. Delaney (D-NY) jumped in between them with his 200 pounds. Cox walked away

See SABATH on page 10-A

MERCY FLIGHT PASSENGER, PILOT

News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin Studio

Getting reassurance from the pilot is Mrs. Alton Hamilton on the stretcher above. She left this morning for Philadelphia where she will undergo a delicate eye operation which may save her partial sight. The pilot is Major Jean Doar of the 156th Fighter Squadron of the North Carolina Air National Guard.

'Where There's Light, There's Hope'

Woman Gambles Sight On Surgery

By MACK BELL
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Mrs. Alton Hamilton left Charlotte by plane this morning for Philadelphia for an operation which may save the partial sight she has left in her only good eye.

Her trip was made possible by the 156th Fighter Squadron of the North Carolina Air National Guard, the Charlotte Lions Club and Mecklenburg Association for the Blind.

Mrs. Hamilton is going to Wills Hospital in Philadelphia for an operation which she hopes will re-attach the retina in her right eye. In that way she may retain the slight sight she has. If the operation is not sucessful, she may lose even that.

Accompanying Mrs. Hamilton on the plane trip were her mother, Mrs. Alice Hall Pell, whose home is in Stokes County; Mrs. Lois Silver Petrowski, executive officer of the Mecklenburg Association for the Blind; Thomas H. Williams, chairman of the Lions Club committee on blind assistance and W. N. Hovis, a past president of the blind association.

At the airport as she waited in a Hovis ambulance, she chatted with her husband, her mother, two brothers and the friends who were to go with her.

A LITTLE NERVOUS

"I'm a little nervous," she said. "This is my first plane trip."

Her husband, who works at the Carolina Bedding Co., told the story.

Some weeks ago his wife noticed that she was losing her sight. She went to the Charlotte Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital for treatment.

But before anything could be done, she had an acute attack of appendicitis and had to be taken to Charlotte Memorial Hospital for an operation. After her recovery, she was told at the Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital that there was a chance of her keeping her sight, if she could go to a Dr. Shipman in Philadelphia.

Inspired by even this small hope, Mr. Hamilton started trying to find a way to get his wife to Philadelphia.

Biggest help came from the Lions Club which has many interests in helping the blind and visually handicapped. Hugh G. Ashcraft Jr. yesterday made arrangements with Lt. Col. W. J. Payne, commanding officer of the local Air National Guard Unit.

Since time was important, Col. Payne chartered an emergency flight on the squadron's only C-47. Pilot for the trip was Maj. Jean Doar and co-pilot was 1st Lt. E. C. Griffith Jr. Accompanying them were Lt. Bill Craddock and S/Sgt. Lee Hopper, crew chief.

At 9:20 this morning, on a stretcher, Mrs. Hamilton was carefully placed on the plane. The plane left at 9:30 A. M., due to arrive in Philadelphia sometime after noon.

"Well," said Mr. Hamilton, "she can still see a little bit. And where there's light, there's hope."

Secretary Reports To Senators

Wants Approval At This Session

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Secretary of State Acheson said today ratification of the North Atlantic pact and approval of the arms assistance program are of "utmost importance" to this country's dealings with Soviet Russia.

He told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee at a closed session that the outcome of the big four foreign ministers conference at paris "re-emphasizes" the need for action at this session of Congress on these key Administration measures.

"This is necessary in order that we may continue our firm policy in Europe and maintain the momentum which has been stimulated by that policy," Acheson said.

CITES GAINS

"This momentum in my opinion was responsible for the lifting of the (Berlin) blockade, the convening of the council of foreign ministers and the accomplishments at that meeting."

A day after his return from the Paris meeting, Acheson gave a report to the Senate committee at a two-hour session. He issued a 250-word statement to reporters afterward which said:

"Prior to my departure for Paris to attend a meeting of the council of foreign ministers, I met with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in executive session, outlining the programs we expected to face and discussing our plans. I have just met again with the members of the committee, I reported upon the conference and discussed with the committee the possible effect of developments at the conference on our plans for the future.

"I have taken this opportunity to express to the committee my conviction that although some worthwhile progress was made at Paris in reaching agreement on a modus vivendi for Germany, and on the principle points of difference on the Austria peace treaty, the failure of the conference to obtain satisfactory and firm agreement on the economic and political unification of Germany illustrates the still widely divergent views on basic issues between the Soviet Union and re-emphasizes the utmost importance of ratification of the North Atlantic pact and passage of the military assistance program at this session of Congress.

"This is necessary in order that we may continue our firm policy in Europe and maintain the momentum which has been stimulated by that policy. This momentum, in my opinion, was responsible for the lifting of the Berlin blockade, the convening of the council of foreign ministers meeting and the accomplishments at that meeting.

"I have expressed to the committee my conviction that further progress toward our objective over the months ahead will depend on the action we take to maintain this momentum."

Miss Coplon Clings To Romance Defense

By KARL R. BAUMAN

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Judith Coplon held firm to her love-for-a-Russian defense at her espionage trial today despite admissions that she kept all-night trysts with another man.

JUDITH COPLON

Step by step, Prosecutor John M. Kelley Jr., had Miss Coplon repeat under cross-examination her earlier testimony of meeting and falling in love with Valentine A. Gubitchev, the Russian engineer assigned to the United Nations in New York.

Miss Coplon insisted repeatedly that Gubitchev told her he was "going into the formalities" of obtaining American citizenship and assured her he had broken with the Soviet regime.

At one point she snapped at Kelley: "This is not as sensational as you are trying to make it."

"I'm not trying to make it sensational," the prosecutor shot back.

ADMITS TRYSTS

It was Kelley who drew from Miss Coplon late yesterday the admission that she had spent more than one night with H. P. Shapiro, later identified as an attorney in the Justice Department's criminal division.

Miss Coplon too worked for the Justice Department, as a political analyst. She is charged with stealing secret papers with the intent of passing them along to Moscow via Gubitchev.

Under Kelley's questioning today, the petite Miss Coplon emphasized that Gubitchev told her he was serving on the United Nations secretarit rather than as a member of the Russian U. N. delegation. She described the secretariat as "like an international civil service."

Kelley asked the defendant, why, as their kissless romance continued, she hadn't asked the

See COPLON on page 10-A

High Court Judges Testify For Hiss

NEW YORK — (AP) — Two U. S. Supreme Court justices and the chief judge of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston testified today in behalf of Alger Hiss at his perjury trial.

Justice Felix Frankfurter said Hiss' reputation was "excellent."

Justice Stanley M. Reed testified that "so far as I know" Hiss' reputation was "good."

Chief Judge Calvert Magruder of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Boston, said that the former State Department official's reputation was "excellent."

to come to the aid of their coun-

The prosecutor, U. S. Attorney Thomas F. Murphy, unawed by the fact he was cross-examining Supreme Court justices, wrangled briefly with Frankfurter. The latter stalked out of the courtroom looking somewhat nettled after he had testified.

Reed was more moderate than Frankfurter in his testimony regarding the character of Hiss, who has denied he filched secret State Department papers for transmission to a prewar Soviet spy ring.

Asked by Defense Counsel Lloyd Paul Stryker whether Hiss' reputation "for integrity, loyalty and veracity is good or bad?" Reed replied:

"I never heard any question of it."

"Would that mean that it was good?" asked Stryker.

"So far as I know," Reed replied.

Magruder said that when he was on the Harvard law school faculty "I got to know him very well and he and I have been friends ever since."

Under cross-examination he said he "never" heard that Hiss was a Communist or Communist sympathizer.

Another witness, Gerald Swope Jr., said he shared a law office with Hiss in 1932 and 1933 and that his reputation was "unequivocally excellent."

Frankfurter testified that he never had heard Hiss' reputation questioned and that "I would say it is excellent."

Frankfurter testified that he recommended Hiss for the post of law clerk to the late Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes in the Spring of 1929 when Hiss was in his last year at Harvard law school.

"I decided Mr. Hiss was the man I could most confidently recommend to Mr. Justice Holmes," Frankfurter said.

Stating that the exact nature of a law clerk's work depended on the "particular characteristics" of individual Supreme Court justices, Frankfurter added:

"Basic to all justices is, of course, the deeply confidential relationship that a law clerk bears to the justice of the court."

Conference With Duke Scheduled

Hearing On Fare Increases Held

By DICK YOUNG
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Appointment of a committee to confer with Duke Power Co. officials for determination of expanded service in the light of the company's request for increased passenger fares was authorized today by the City Council.

Upon conclusion of a public hearing on the question of the proposed fare increase, Councilman Basil M. Boyd moved the appointment of a committee, consisting of Mayor Shaw as chairman, members of the City Council, City Manager Henry A. Yancey, City Attorney John D. Shaw, and Herman J. Hoose, city traffic engineer, along with seven citizens chosen at large.

The motion also provided that a conference be arranged with the Duke Power Co. at 4 P. M. next Monday.

Following this conference and at next Wednesday's weekly Council session, decision will be made by the Council regarding the Charlotte Government's intervention in a hearing on the proposed increases. The hearing is scheduled before the North Carolina Utilities Commission in Raleigh July 7.

Duke is seeking to increase individual fares from 7 to 10 cents and tokens from four for 25 cents to three for 25 cents.

At today's hearing the question of improvement of existing service areas loomed large and almost over- and extension of service to outlying shadowed the principal issue of the requested increase in fares.

At least two Negro citizens are expected to be named among the lay representatives on the committee that will confer with the utilities company.

Mayor Shaw is to leave tonight by plane for a brief business trip to New York and it was not certain whether he would select the citizen committee members before he departs.

Several speakers from the relatively small group of citizens on hand for the hearing addressed the Council.

Stress was laid upon service rather than fares and some of the speakers said they were willing to accept the increased charge if assurance were given that adequate service would be provided.

L. B. Andrews, president of the Merry Oaks Civic Club, composed of residents living inside the city limits east of Briar Creek and on both sides of Central Ave., was the first, reading a letter he had prepared to request service. He asked that Morningside bus line be extended to Eastway Drive with additional busses during morning and afternoon peaks. Sunday service would not be demanded, he said.

SUGGESTS RIM RUNS

L. L. Caudle complained of overcrowding on busses and suggested short runs on the rim of the downtown district as one means of relieving this overcrowding on long-run busses coming into the central business district. He also thought a re-schedule would improve service on Trade and Tryon Sts. and at the Independence Square transfer point. Unless service is improved the request for increase is unreasonable, he said.

Mrs. George Cowan, 2700 Roswell Ave., was brief but humorous as she complained of the difficulty in making transfers in the outlying sections. "I don't want to have to transfer at the Square when I'm just going to the Providence Road Shopping Center," she declared. She suggested different colored-transfers for changes at different points.

Charles Henderson, attorney, explained that he represented two clients, one non-paying and the other paying. The non-paying, he said, was a group of 900 Negro citizens living in the vicinity of Fairview School.

No bus comes closer than five or six blocks to this school, and the children have to trudge that distance in fair or foul weather, he said.

He said he understood that the line would be extended along Burton St. if the street was widened, and addressing himself to both the Council and officials of the Duke

See BUS RATE on page 10-A

Berlin Strikers Ease Rail Tieup

BERLIN — (AP) — The Western Berlin railway strikers decided tonight to restore interzonal freight movements to normal without calling off their walkout.

The union announced that workmen would report to the west Berlin marshalling yards tomorrow morning to make the technical preparations for untangling the chaos brought by five weeks strike.

By Friday freight trains from west Germany to Berlin will be moving through the yards and toward the unloading stations, the union said.

Earlier leaders of the strike voted to reject the latest proposal to end their walkout and drew a stern admonition from an American official.

"It's time they start considering what's best for Berlin, not purely for their union," said W. T. Babcock, U. S. deputy commandant in Berlin. He told the union leaders to "subordinate their union to the welfare of the city."

Witness Says Security In A-Bomb Making Okay

By OLIVER W. de WOLF

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Walter J. Williams, production manager for the Atomic Energy Commission, said today "the security of the country as far as making bombs is concerned is O.K."

His remark at the Congressional investigation of the AEC was a strong hint that A-bomb output is at a rate considered satisfactory by those concerned with it. The rate is a closely guarded secret.

Williams is a former Army officer who was assigned to the atomic project when the military controlled it during the war. He continued on it when the present civilian commission took over in 1946.

He said the Army did a "remarkable job" in organizing the project and accomplished its task of getting "atomic bombs to help end the war." Of the Commission's accomplishments, he had this to say:

"We have nothing to be ashamed of, if you take it on balance. I believe if we were permitted to tell the public what has been accomplished, that the people would feel the program is in good hands and that the security of the country as far as making bombs is concerned is O.K."

The Senate-House Atomic Committee is investigating charges of "incredible mismanagement" made against the AEC and its chairman, David E. Lilienthal, by Sen. Hickenlooper (R-Iowa).

Williams was called to the stand for questioning about the engineering experience of Frank L. Creedon, former housing expediter, who is now a General Electric Co. official at the AEC's Hanford (Wash.) project. GE operates the project.

Fred C. Schlemmer, manager of the AEC Hanford office, had testified that Creedon is manager of the GE design and construction department and receives $36,000 annually.

In response to questions from Hickenlooper, Schlemmer said Creedon, an engineer, is responsible for all construction at Hanford including the building of atomic piles, or furnaces.

Once Over Lightly

BY WALTER SEIGENTHALER

Neighbor of ours bought some kerosene to start fires, it did . . . . The very best things we do are the ones without any applause. . .

House Group Will Investigate

Probe Ordered Into Hooded Attacks In Ala.

WASHINGTON — (AP) Rep. Celler today ordered a full-scale Congressional inquiry into hooded flogging incidents in Alabama.

The investigation will be undertaken by a civil rights subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee. Rep. Byrne will direct it.

Celler said the committee staff already is at work locating witnesses who will be subpoenaed to appear here.

The recent beatings took place around Birmingham. Victims reported they were administered by white-sheeted men.

"This certainly highlights the necessity for legislation to protect the civil rights of citizens," Celler said in announcing the investigation.

But Rep. Battle (D-Ala) said local and state officials and civic organizations already are taking action. He said they "should and could find out the facts." Interference by any Federal agency, he said, might "confuse the whole issue."

Battle represents the district where hooded mobs recently have flogged or beaten a number of people.

He supplied one hint that the FBI may be interested. He told reporters he had contacted the agency, talked with Director J. Edgar Hoover's assistant and had been told the FBI "would do everything possible in their jurisdiction."

Reps. Celler (D-NY), Byrne (D-NY) and Walter (D-Pa.) decided to confer this morning. Celler is chairman of the full Judiciary Committee. Byrne is chairman of the subcommittee now holding hearings on broad civil rights legislation. Walter is a member of both the Judiciary and un-American Activities Committees.

As for calling in Alabama residents who have been beaten or threatened, Celler said:

"I think it should be grist to our mill and I certainly would abet and approve it."

Byrne said he would be guided by Celler's suggestions.

The whole idea originated with Walter. He said:

"We don't want to interfere in any way with efforts that may be under way by the Justice Dept. or by local authorities. But we should find out how serious or widespread this is."

Congress, he said, should find out what is behind the Alabama incidents, whether local authority has broken down and whether state and Federal officials lack power to act because of "loopholes in existing laws."

Battle said he is very much disturbed about the mob operations in the vicinity of Birmingham and that he, too, has been unable to pin down responsibility.

"It seems like the Klan in some instances," he said, "and in others it seems to be groups of workers."

The Federated Ku Klux Klan has offered to give $500 to any body who can prove its members have been involved.

Unmasking Bill Backed In Alabama

MONTGOMERY, ALA—(AP)—A bill to unmask any hooded organization in Alabama was approved by the House Judiciary Committee today.

The action followed after an hour-long hearing during which Ku Klux Klan leaders urged defeat of the measure.

Today's action will send the Senate-passed bill back to the House of Representatives when it meets Friday.

The Rev. Alvin Horn, Baptist minister from Talladega, Ala., told the committee the Klan's chief purpose is the preservation of "white supremacy", which he said "our enemies are trying to destroy."

"I'd rather be hung from the balcony over the steps where Jeff Davis took his oath, than to have the mask taken from the Klan at this crucial hour," he said.

Jefferson Davis was inaugurated as President of the Confederate States of America in 1861, in the building in which the committee hearing is being held.

Anti-Poll Tax Bill Approved

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The House Administration Committee today approved anti-poll tax legislation.

The bill would make it unlawful for states to require payment of a poll tax before an otherwise qualified voter could vote in primary or general elections for Federal officers.

It is a part of President Truman's civil rights program.

In approving the bill, the committee turned down a suggestion from a subcommittee that action be deferred until the House Judiciary Committee has a "reasonable" time to act on a proposal to submit to the states a Constitutional amendment to ban poll taxes.

The anti-poll tax bill cannot come before the House for a vote until the rules committee gives it clearance.

The House has passed anti-poll tax bills several times in the past but filibusters and the threat of filibusters have stopped them in the Senate.

Southerners opposed to the bill are influential on the Rules Committee and there is a possibility the bill may be held up there.

If the committe holds it up, a new House rule, adopted this year, would allow Chairman Norton (D-NJ), of the Administration committee, to call for a House vote after 21 days.

State's Monitor System Featured

North Carolina's new beer regulation law is one of the most stringent in the natoin, and under its provisions special State inspectors are waging successful war against trouble-making beer joints and honky-tonks.

News Reporter Ralph Gibson describes the new law and tells how it is working in a special feature on today's editorial page