

Achievement Is Lacking In Congress

WASHINGTON — After three weeks, the 90th Congress has little to show in the way of accomplishment, and the prospects are that the next few weeks won't show much improvement.

The slow start, with many committees still not organized, is not unusual. Even the busy 89th Congress was slow in getting off the ground two years ago although within a month hearings were started on one major bill—aid to education.

But there is little on the legislative horizon in either House or Senate before Congress takes its annual Easter recess late in March. The House may recess for 10 days to two weeks.

Only two items of major importance appear headed for early action: the administration's proposal to increase the national debt limit, on which House hearings start this week, and a supplemental appropriation bill of more than \$9 billion for the Vietnam war.

The debt limit will probably pass both House and Senate before Easter, but the appropriation measure may take longer, even though the House likely will act in mid-March.

Only one of President Johnson's special legislative messages has reached Capitol Hill, a complex program for older Americans, including Social Security increases, revised requirements for state welfare programs and tax reform for the elderly.

The House Ways and Means Committee plans to start hearings about Feb. 15, but the process of writing the legislation is expected to take several weeks at the least. Consideration in the House itself will therefore probably not come until after Easter.

The Senate is considering a complicated proposal for congressional reorganization, including revised rules for committees, increased staffing and use of computers to study the budget. A flock of amendments, covering everything from the seniority system to the possibility of microphones for the Senate, is slowing things down.

Even if the Senate passes the proposal, action by the House is a long way off. The question hasn't been studied by a House committee since the proposals were made last year by a joint congressional reorganization committee.

The Senate may act also on a resolution calling on President Johnson to reduce troop strength in Europe. And the long-pending consular treaty with the Soviet Union remains on the calendar.

Chairman George H. Mahon, D-Tex., of the House Appropriations Committee said during debate last week on Johnson's budget that he hopes all money bills can be passed by the House by July 1 and that Congress may be able to adjourn before Aug. 1.

Wildlife Post Goes To Simpson

ROCKY MOUNT — Outdoor sportsman, writer and photographer Bob Simpson of Morehead City, has been named field director of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation. Dr. Fred Barkalow, president, announced Sunday.

Simpson will begin his duties in the newly-created post on February 1, Dr. Barkalow said. He will work throughout the State under the direction of Turner W. Battle of Rocky Mount, executive director of the wildlife federation.

Primarily Simpson will act as liaison between the State organization and its affiliated clubs, Dr. Barkalow said. He also will assist in expanding federation membership by aiding formation of new wildlife clubs in North Carolina.

A native of South Dakota, Simpson moved to North Carolina in 1949 and has lived with his wife aboard a 42-foot boat at Morehead City. In his new post, he will be headquartered at Rocky Mount.

For the past several years, Simpson has travelled throughout much of the United States, camping out and reporting on his trips for several newspapers in a weekly outdoor column. He is an avid hunter and fisherman, and currently serves as president of the Carters County Wildlife Club.

A Marine veteran, Simpson served in both World War I and the Korean War. He studied at the University of Miami and South Dakota State University.

Ship Snarls Tug's Ropes

NORFOLK, Va. — The Coast Guard said Sunday night an empty liberty ship headed for scrap had snarled a tug's ropes in its propellers and the two ships were being tossed and dragged through 25-knot winds and 20-foot waves in the Atlantic off Cape Hatteras, N.C.

A Coast Guard spokesman said there was no real danger to the crewmen aboard the seagoing tug Lambert Point.

"They're riding it out pretty good," he said. It was not known how many crewmen were on the tug. The 441-foot liberty ship Samuel Chase had no one aboard.

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