

Partly cloudy today and tomorrow. Slightly warmer today, not much change in temperatures Saturday.

Teachers To Get Increase In Pay

Unanimous Approval Of Conference Committee's Report Means February Pay Checks Bring Supplementary Hike

RALEIGH, Jan. 23.—(P)—State employees and teachers are elated over the unanimous approval of the second conference committee's report by each house of the General assembly today, for it means that the February pay checks will bring initial results of supplementary salary increases.

Today's action by the legislature climaxed a bitter battle that had lasted for over two weeks in which the solons debated the amount of percentages of increase and period for which the pay boost should be effective.

HEART ATTACK FATAL TO SMITH

Vice President Of World Bank Former Budget Director Dies On Farm

CULPEPER, Va., Jan. 23.—(P)—Harold D. Smith, vice president of the World Bank and former director of the United States Budget bureau, died suddenly of a heart attack today at his farmhouse here. He was 48 years old.

Dr. Paul Dickens of Washington, the Smith's family physician, said that Smith was stricken suddenly and died before medical aid could reach him.

Mrs. Smith, who was in Washington at the time, was reported distraught at the death of her husband on their farm here.

Smith resigned as director of the budget bureau last June to become vice president of the new \$7,670,000 international bank under Eugene Meyer as president.

When Meyer stepped out, Smith also offered his resignation in December but consented to remain until a successor to Meyer was selected.

Smith had undergone treatment for a heart condition a year or so ago when he was budget director.

Smith quit his government post to accept the international bank position because of its tax-free salary of \$22,500 a year, compared with the \$10,000, less taxes, which the government paid. He wrote President Truman that he could not have continued as budget director in any case "without reducing certain fixed charges which I have regarded for many years as important to the security of my family."

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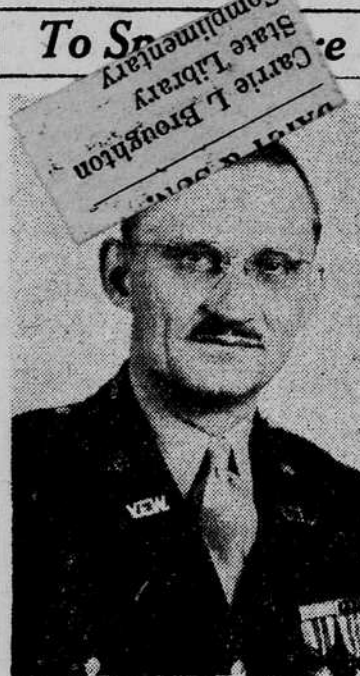
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LOUIS E. STARR

VFW COMMANDER TO VISIT CITY

Local Commander Starr Announces Louis E. Starr Coming Here Feb. 28

Louis E. Starr, national commander Veterans of Foreign Wars, will visit Wilmington on Tuesday, January 28, as the guest of the James F. Manley post, VFW, which was learned yesterday from E. C. Snead, commander.

Commander Starr will speak to members of the local post and guests at a luncheon, given in his honor, on Tuesday at 12 o'clock in the Cape Fear club, it was stated. Invited will be all city and county officials, civic leaders and officials of other local veterans' organizations.

The national commander, whose home is in Portland, Oregon, is expected to arrive in Raleigh by plane and will motor to this city. This will be the first time in ten years that the national commander of the VFW has visited Wilmington, it was stated. He is expected to be here only one day.

Commander Starr has previously expressed a desire to inspect the Lake Forest housing project of the Veterans Homes Incorporated, and will be taken on a tour of the section, Ken Noble, VHI president, said. Starr took an important part in the conference which led to veterans now having priority on surplus housing.

The project now underway by the VHI to purchase housing in Lake Forest from FPHA, giving first priority to veterans, is the first of its kind in the country. The VHI has accepted the price set by the government and negotiations to complete the transaction are now in progress, Noble said.

A. R. Hanson, assistant director in charge of real estate and distribution for the Southeast FPHA with offices in Atlanta and other government officials are expected in Wilmington on Thursday, January 30, to confer with VHI officials to work out details on the transaction, Noble said.

There was no opposition in this body either. Sen. Wade Barber of Chatham, appropriations committee chairman, read the report, and then moved its adoption.

The motion was seconded by Sen. George Penn of Guilford and Rivers Johnson of Duplin.

R. G. Deyton, assistant director of the budget, said tonight that he had not been able to determine immediately the cost of the bonus, but that he thought it would be in the neighborhood of \$2,500,000—this would be \$1,550,000 more than recommended by Governor Cherry in his biennial message to the legislature.

The administration-supported bill for supplementary pay raises would have cost the state \$6,900,000, but an amendment by Rep. Barker proposed increases from 25 to 30 percent which would have cost the state about \$8,500,000 Dayton said.

The first conference committee's report advocated increases in the state's 5,108 taxicabs under the jurisdiction of the State Utilities Commission as soon as possible.

Samonds, Sr., of Durham, president of the Taxicab Association, said that the move would not only effect the approximately 2,000 cabs operated by members of the Association, but all cabs in the state.

The group also resolved to work for uniformity of public utility and property damage insurance covering taxicabs, instead of the present varying forms in use.

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Marshall C. Kurfess of Raleigh, Taxicab Association Executive secretary, announced that annual convention of the Association would be held Jan. 23-25, at the Ocean Terrace Hotel, Wrightsville Beach.

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President To Aid SPA At Shipyard

Page And Truman Confer In Capital Over Refusal Of Purchase Offer

ACTION SEEN

North Carolina Delegation Attends White House Parley

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(P)—Presidential Assistant John R. Steelman will investigate the rejection of the North Carolina State Ports authority's offer to buy the North Carolina Shipbuilding yards, Wilmington, N. C. Senator Hoyt (D-N. C.) said today.

At a White House conference today R. B. Page, of Wilmington, the ports authority chairman told President Truman that the authority wants the Maritime Commission to reconsider its \$1,200,000 offer for the yards.

Hoyt said the President was "sympathetic with our purposes and asked for the investigation (by Steelman) to see if satisfactory arrangements can be made for the ports authority to acquire the yards."

North Carolina members of Congress joined Page, and former Governor J. Melville Broughton in discussing the yard with the President.

Broughton said the state had gone as far as it can in a survey of ports and transportation until a suitable site for a bigger port can be arranged.

Rep. Clark said the state wants the same consideration in improving its ports that Norfolk, Va., Charleston, S. C., and Jacksonville, Fla., have had from the federal government.

The Senate Expenditures committee ordered an investigation of the War Assets Administration.

The nomination of W. Averell Harriman to be secretary of commerce succeeding Henry A. Wallace, was approved unanimously by the senate committee.

An approximate 30 percent slash by the budget bureau in 1948 federal funds for promoting safe civilian flying was disclosed before the house committee investigating airplane crashes.

Senators Ball (R-Minn.) and Murray (D-Mont.) urged the senate labor committee to steer clear of "compulsory techniques" in drafting legislation to curb union activities.

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Flees Kidnaper



Alice Dean Devine, popular 17-year-old high school student of Lodi, Calif., returned unharmed to her home after escaping from a kidnaper who tried to collect \$10,000 ransom from her father. She broke out of her bonds in a highway hotel while the abductor was telephoning her relatives. (AP Wirephoto).

POLICE UNCOVER KIDNAPING CLUE

West Coast Deputies Retracing Abduction Trail From Lodi

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 23.—(P)—J. W. (Jake) Ehrlich prominent San Francisco attorney, announced tonight he would file suit against the Edward Devine family of Lodi for damages for the "false arrest" of Earl Shelton who, Ehrlich said, was held for nearly 12 hours as the "No. 1 suspect" in the kidnapping of Alice Dean Devine.

LODI, Calif., Jan. 23.—(UP)—Sheriff's deputies uncovered important new evidence in the kidnapping of Alice Devine today when the 17-year-old girl retraced with authorities the trail her abductor took last Monday night.

Neither the sheriff nor police would divulge the nature of the new discoveries except to say "there are several of them." One was said to be highly important.

The 17-year-old high school senior who escaped by wriggling loose from her ropes in a Sacramento hotel accompanied a police and sheriff's office caravan over the route taken by the "talent scout" who said he was taking her to have her portrait painted.

Police Chief Millard Fore said the evidence uncovered "substantiates the chain of events related by this girl."

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May And Three Officers From Munitions Combine Indicted At Washington

RUSSIANS BLOCK NEWEST DEMANDS

Proposal That Small Nations Have Full Share In Treaties Attacked

LONDON, Jan. 23.—(P)—Soviet Russia opposed new demands of smaller nations for a full share in treaty making today with the declaration that the major powers "paid in blood" for the right to draft the peace treaties with Germany and Austria, an American informant said tonight.

The informant said that Feodor T. Gousev, the Soviet delegate at the four-power deputy foreign ministers' council, asserted the Russian view during a sharp exchange with Col. W. R. Hodgson of Australia, who demanded full participation by all active belligerents in the deputies' deliberations.

American and Australian sources said Hodgson also asked that the council of foreign ministers enlarge the Potsdam agreement at their Moscow meeting in March to give the smaller powers an "active part" in control of Germany.

The proposal, which Hodgson did not elaborate in detail, brought no immediate Big Power comment.

The small nations have been invited to present their views to the deputies, who are making recommendations to be submitted to their chieftains for the Moscow meeting. There is no specific provision in instructions to the deputies to give the smaller countries an equal share in the deliberations.

Gousev said major decisions were left to the Big Powers; during the war—a procedure he described as "necessary to achieve victory." The same procedure was essential in establishing peace, he said.

Hodgson did not say exactly what role he felt smaller nations should play in Germany under a revised plan, which he said should serve as an "interim agreement," pending final peace.

(Continued On Page 3, Col. 4)

TRUMAN PRAISES GOP COOPERATION

Newsy Press Conference Discloses President's Stand On Issues

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(P)—President Truman today declared that his hoped-for cooperation from the GOP Congress is a fact.

In that vein, he disclosed: "He is leaving entirely up to Congress the question of continuing rent control beyond its present June 30 expiration date, although he thinks we ought to hold the line on rents. The matter of possible increases in the rent ceilings similarly is one for Congress rather than the OPA, he believes."

2. He has a Republican under consideration for a vacancy on the federal communications commission. The prospective nominee is Miss Marion Martin, formerly assistant chairman of the Republican national committee and head of its women's division.

3. He took no part