

HOUSE DEBATES APPOINTMENT OF MURPHY

Frances Perkins Gives Praise To State's Labor Legislation

Labor Chief Tells Solons About State

Declares North Carolina's Economic Condition Is "Highly Favorable"; Addresses Joint Session of Legislature on Visit to Raleigh

Raleigh, Jan. 11.—(AP)—Frances Perkins, secretary of labor, highly praised North Carolina today for enacting "much progressive labor legislation" as she told the State legislature that the State's economic condition is "highly favorable."

Hull Returns from Lima Parley



Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Mrs. Hull are pictured as their ship passed the Statue of Liberty, arriving at New York from Lima, Peru. Hull was chairman of the American delegation at the conference of the Americas in Lima. (Central Press)

Meeting Of Legislature Very Short

Joint Money Committees Continue Work on New Budget; Jack Dempsey Invited To Attend House Meeting; Fireworks Over Seed Licenses

Raleigh, Jan. 11.—(AP)—North Carolina's legislators heard Frances Perkins, secretary of labor, praise the State today for having done "wonderfully well" in labor legislation since 1933, and did little else in routine sessions.

The joint money committee met this afternoon to continue work on the record \$154,000,000 1939-41 proposed budget.

Fireworks came at a meeting of the House Agriculture Committee, the first such debate of the session, when the spokesman for the Department of agriculture opposed the Page-Underwood bill to reduce the license tax from \$10 to \$1 on seed dealers doing less than \$100 business a year.

After Representatives Page, of Bladen, and Turlington, of Iredell, had expressed opposition, the House adopted a resolution inviting Jack Dempsey to attend the meeting of the lower House tomorrow.

Senator Graham, of Lincoln, offered a bill to require the highway commission to provide new drainage facilities when its construction work blocks drains already fixed. Senator Gregory, of Rowan, sent in a proposal to clarify the laws on bastardy and empower justices of the peace to issue warrants in such cases.

Speaker Ward announced appointment of Rev. Alfonso Jordan, of Eden ton, as House chaplain.

Charlotte Airman Killed On His Way From Miami Races

Rock Hill, S. C., Jan. 11.—(AP)—Tom H. Gable, 27-year-old Charlotte, N. C., novelty dealer, was fatally injured in the crash of his private airplane near the Rock Hill city limits today. Gable was returning to Charlotte after participating in the air games at Miami, Fla., last week.

The accident occurred about 10:20 a. m. Gable was brought to a hospital here, where he died about 1 p. m. His father, L. A. Gable, Sr., of Charlotte, who came here upon receiving word of the crash, said Tom had been flying about two years.

Hope Of Recovery Of Col. Ruppert Is Finally Given Up

New York, Jan. 11.—(AP)—General Colonel Jacob Ruppert, beer and baseball magnate, lay near death today in his palatial Fifth Avenue home. The last rites of the Catholic Church were administered, and attending physicians said there was no hope of recovery for the 71-year-old owner of the world champion New York Yankees.

But the stout little bachelor sportsman, who built one of the nation's biggest fortunes in brewing, baseball and real estate, fought strongly against an attack of phlebitis that has kept him from his office for nine months.

Death Method Of State May Be Continued

Raleigh, Jan. 11.—John R. Morris, chairman of the House Committee on Penal Institutions, plans to make a thorough personal study of death-

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Mostly cloudy, followed by occasional rains Thursday and in southeast portion tonight; slightly colder in east and extreme north central portions tonight and in east portion Thursday.

A Matter of \$915,000,000



Mayor LaGuardia (right) of New York, and Edward Taylor, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, are pictured during the hearing at which LaGuardia, as president of the United States conference of Mayors, declared the \$875,000,000 requested by the President for the WPA should be raised to \$915,000,000.

Chamberlain Starts Talk With Mussolini On Peace Of Europe

Next Four Days May Determine Whether Or Not Major War Will Break in Europe; Very Cordial Greeting Given Englishmen in Rome

Rome, Jan. 11.—(AP)—Prime Minister Chamberlain, warmly welcomed to Rome, tonight sought to learn Premier Mussolini's terms for cooperation in his effort to bring appeasement to Europe.

Less than two hours after a spectacular welcome at the railway station, the British and Italian premiers and their foreign ministers were conferring in Il Duce's office. The first talk lasted an hour.

The negotiations opened in a cordial atmosphere, but were confronted with grave difficulties. The Italians left no doubt that the first problem would be their claims for a new colonial deal in Africa at the expense of France, which already has registered

her objection to Chamberlain's dealing with this issue.

The British considered settling the Spanish civil war as perhaps the greatest question involved in Chamberlain's four-day visit, but Italian officials indicated Il Duce would inform the prime minister that he prefers to let insurgent General Franco fight on to a final victory.

Il Duce and his son-in-law and foreign minister, Count Ciano, met Chamberlain and his secretary, Viscount Halifax, at the railway station when they arrived at 10:30 a. m., eastern standard time.

As Mussolini, smiling broadly, stepped

Oliphant, 54 years old, was best known in the administration for his reputed authorship of the controversial undistributed profits tax. Although retiring and reticent, Oliphant was credited by associates with frequent consultation with the President on many other important matters.

At the time of his death, Oliphant was the Treasury's member of the monopoly investigating committee.

Smithfield, Jan. 11.—(AP)—Word was received here today that J. Morgan Broadhurst, 35, a tobacco warehouseman here, died in Albuquerque, N. M., last night from injuries received in an automobile wreck.

Broadhurst was returning from Duke University's football team play in the Rose Bowl. He was an official of the First and Citizens Bank & Trust Company.

Roosevelt's Men Defend Ex-Governor

Republicans Attack His Attitude in Sit-down Strikes in Michigan; Major Appointments of President Considered by Senate Committees

Washington, Jan. 11.—(AP)—Administration members defended Frank Murphy in the House today during an attack on the new attorney general's sit-down strike record.

Representative Hoffman, Republican, Michigan, said selection of Murphy as legal advisor of the President means, if it means anything, that the President approves of a government by men, by expediency—not a government by law under the Constitution.

"If the people of the country want that kind of government, Murphy's appointment should be confirmed," said Hoffman. "If they want a government by law, the appointment should be rejected."

Representative Rayburn, Texas, the majority leader, heatedly asked Hoffman to cite "one instance in which Governor Murphy broke the law."

Murphy's nomination to head the Justice Department already has been approved by a Senate Judiciary subcommittee.

With the Senate in adjournment until tomorrow, three of its subcommittees were at work today on President Roosevelt's nomination to high offices.

Hopkins Defends Record. One approved former Senator Pope, of Idaho, for the Tennessee Valley Authority board of directors. Another heard Harry L. Hopkins testify that he had done everything in his power "to keep petty, partisan politics out of WPA."

Answering questions concerning his qualifications for secretary of commerce, an office to which he has just been named, Hopkins asked, "if anybody has had an intimate experience with business during the last six years, it has been myself."

Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling, who described

Ruth, With Heart Attack, Worried By Ruppert's Illness

New York, Jan. 11.—(AP)—Babe Ruth, baseball's all-time home run king, was under treatment in French hospital today for a slight heart attack. Following cheerfully at visitors, the 45-year-old Babe was more worried over the critical illness of his former boss, Colonel Jacob Ruppert, owner of the New York Yankees, than his own ailment.

"Just a check-up. Guess I've been exercising too much trying to work off this belly."

Ruth left the hospital early this afternoon after receiving treatment there.

Compromise Proposed In Boston Strike

Boston, Mass., Jan. 11.—(AP)—A compromise wage-hour agreement designed to end a seven-day truck strike marked by death, scattered violence and paralysis of food and freight transportation in the Boston area, was offered today to 5,000 striking drivers for ratification.

At Governor Saltonstall's personal urging, the employers early today accepted it might end a bitter dispute. The spokesman for the carriers said the agreement provided a top scale of \$39 for a 48-hour week, an increase of \$2 over the current wage. The union had asked \$40 for 40 hours.

The spokesman said drivers would be paid 85 cents for the first hour over time to each day and \$1 an hour thereafter.

A medical examiner, meanwhile, reported that "everything points to a cardiac condition" as having killed John Pimental, 50, of Newport, R. I., whose death at first was believed the result of a beating yesterday when three carloads of men stopped his truck in Sharon. Police released 25 men after questioning.

Declaring the cause of death still was indefinite at this time, Dr. Golden said "if Pimental died from this (cardiac) condition, it very probably was due to being chased."

Whole Budget Based Upon Diversion Of \$7,000,000

Issue Has Already Become Possibly Chief Legislative Issue; If Diversion Is Rejected, State Fiscal Structure Hopeless, Bryant Says

Raleigh, Jan. 11.—The administration, one of its budget-makers acting as spokesman, has flatly informed the General Assembly and the world at large that its whole financial plan for the coming biennium is based on a foundation of using \$7,000,000 collected in gasoline taxes for general fund purposes.

Speaking before a joint meeting of the House and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees, Victor S. Bryant, one of the members of the Advisory Budget Commission, told in detail how all plans for balancing outgo and income during the next two years call for transfer of \$2,000,000 next June from highway to general funds, to be followed by transfers of an estimated \$2,500,000 at the end of each succeeding fiscal year.

Budget Rests on Diversion. "Unless the present policy permitting transfer of these sums to the general fund is continued, you might just as well throw the revenue and appropriations bills out the window and start all over again," he concluded an hour's speech in which he made repeated reference to the practice which friends call "application of the sales tax to gasoline" and which enemies denounce as "diversion, just as malodorous under any other name."

He warned that continuation of the present policy is the only way in which the legislature can "get a balanced budget and go home in any reasonable length of time."

Mr. Bryant's explanation of the

In Smuggle Quiz



Jack Benny (above), film and radio comedian, was called to appear before the Federal Grand Jury, in New York, to tell of his friendship with Albert N. Chaperau, confessed smuggler. Government claims Benny gave his wife, Mary Livingstone, \$1,200 smuggled trinkets.

Absentee Law Repeal Seems Very Doubtful

Raleigh, Jan. 11.—Outright and complete repeal of the absentee ballot law by the present General Assembly is very doubtful, in the opinion of slow-speaking, sandy-haired (what there is of it) George W. Phillips, just appointed chairman of the House Committee on Elections and Election Laws.

The Onslow lawyer professed complete surprise at his appointment and declared that Speaker Libby Ward has "handed me the toughest sort of a job."

Talking over the matter, Mr. Phillips did not commit himself to any definite stand on the question of absentee ballot repeal or other election law reforms. He said there is considerable doubt whether complete repeal is possible in this Assembly and seemed to favor moving with caution in the making changes.

"There's absolutely no doubt about the sentiment of people in my county—they are overwhelmingly for outright repeal of all absentee voting laws," he said, "but it's very doubtful if repeal can be attained and it is somewhat doubtful if that's the best solution of the problem after

State Prison Heads Defend Asphyxiation

Raleigh, Jan. 11.—(AP)—Prison officials rallied today to the defense of asphyxiation as the means of inflicting capital punishment in the face of legislative proposals to return to electrocutions.

North Carolina has the only lethal gas chamber east of the Mississippi River.

Newspaper men and witnesses of executions have been outspoken in their belief that electrocution is more humane than gas, and Governor Hoey suggested that the legislature provide again for electrocutions. Two bills to restore electrocutions have been introduced already.

Reporters recalled that Tom Linney grinned as he sat down in the

State Prison

Headquarters

of the State Prison

at Raleigh

to hear the

reporters

South Carolian Asks Congress To Tax Sorry Tobacco

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 11.—(AP)—Representative Stanley Bryant, of Horay county, introduced today a resolution memorializing Congress to enact legislation imposing a tax on inferior grades of tobacco instead of the penalty imposed by the existing Federal control act.

Pointing out "fine-cured" tobacco growers voted against production control, which "will result in an over-production of inferior grades of tobacco, and bring material loss to tobacco growers," the resolution asks Congress to "impose a reasonable tax on all scrap tobacco marketed at a price not exceeding five cents per pound" in lieu of the 50 percent penalty provided under existing acts.

The resolution was referred to the agriculture committee.

Bus Inquiry Fund Causes Speculation

Raleigh, Jan. 11.—An item of \$20,000 buried in the budget appropriation bill for the highway and public works commission, by long odds the smallest item in the list of suggested appropriations, has the germ of a real legislative scrap. This is the new item for "bus investigation," something that has not appeared in any previous appropriation bill.

Bus and railroad folks are wondering if it is to be the center of the biennial contest for advantage between these two major transportation facilities.

Considerable doubt is expressed as to just what course the investigation is intended to take; and there is much

speculation