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Congress To Battle For Own Powers

Two Government Agencies Dispute Its Authority; Pay-Go Tax Measure Is Included

Washington, May 17—(AP)—What may shape up as the busiest week the House has had since Pearl Harbor, gets under way today with a fight between Congress and two government agencies.

House leaders, building their program around Wednesday's scheduled address by Prime Minister Churchill, hoped to obtain action on a \$30 billion appropriation for the Navy, a \$72 million supply bill for the Interior Department, a pay-as-you-go tax measure and a final controversial labor measure.

The appropriations committee had pending before the House an amendment to prevent use of any funds in the bill, or in any other appropriations measure, for payment of the salaries or expenses of William E. Dodd, Jr. and Dr. Goodwin B. Watson, FCC employees, and Robert Moses Lovett, Interior Department official serving as government secretary of the Virgin Islands.

An appropriations sub-committee had recommended on April 21 that Watson and Dodd be dismissed as "undesirable" for the present to continue in government employment. And the same committee last Friday made a similar recommendation in Lovett's case.

Refusal of the FCC to dismiss Watson and Dodd, and announcement by Interior Secretary Ickes today that he would retain Lovett "so long as I have legal power to do so," brought the issue to a head today.

Appropriations committee members said they would demand a roll call vote on the move to cut off the trio's pay and termed the controversy a fight to determine whether Congress or Federal agencies were running the government.

Disposition of the matter today would give right of way for action tomorrow on the Navy appropriations bill.

Somewhere in the program will be sandwiched the pay-as-you-go tax bill by the Senate Friday.

House Democrats Plan New Fight on Skip-a-Year Plan

Washington, May 17—(AP)—Speaker Rayburn, Texas Democrat, said today Democratic leaders will make a third and final battle against the modified Ruml plan when the House votes tomorrow on whether to accept a Senate year embracing the skip-a-year proposal.

Party leaders held a meeting with Rayburn, while House Republicans claimed sufficient strength to send the Senate version to the President's desk.

Republican Leader Martin of Massachusetts said he understood "at least six" House members previously opposed to the "skip-a-year" measure are now ready to support the modified Ruml bill. This would be more than enough to overcome the 206-202 defeat suffered by the bill in the House two weeks ago.

Rayburn said he did not know what kind of compromise might be worked out if the Democrats succeed in their efforts.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Continued warm this afternoon and tonight.

All Rubber Plants Will Be Completed This Year

Washington, May 17—(AP)—Every plant in the synthetic rubber program will be completed by the end of this year, William M. Jeffers, director, reported today, but new tires cannot be expected for a long time.

Jeffers, in his third progress report, said essential drivers would get 12,000,000 new tires this year—5,000,000 synthetics and 7,000,000 pre-Pearl Harbor type.

Jeffers' report followed a warning by Petroleum Administrator Ickes and Price Administrator Prentiss Brown that "drastic steps" will be taken unless east coast motorists cut down on their use of gasoline.

Ickes declared military operations

U. S. DELEGATION TO FOOD CONFERENCE



PICTURED IN WASHINGTON are the U. S. delegates to the International Food Conference which is scheduled to open shortly at Hot Springs, Va. They are (l. to r., seated): Murray D. Lincoln, executive secretary Ohio Farm Bureau Federation; Josephine Schain; Judge Marvin Jones, chairman. Standing (l. to r.): Paul H. Appleby; W. L. Clayton; and Thomas Parran, Surgeon General. (International Soundphoto)

WLB Says Lewis' Stand Is Defying U. S. Sovereignty

Kenansville, May 17—(AP)—The citizens of this county seat town held their biennial municipal election on May 11, but they haven't settled the office-holding business by a long shot. They since have discovered that J. R. Grady, who was elected mayor by a six-vote majority, is not registered as a qualified voter of the town.

One member of the board of aldermen, E. C. Tyndall, also is not a legally qualified voter. Not only that, but they held their election a week late, according to regulations prescribed by the State legislature for municipal elections.

Now they don't know who should hold office, the incumbents or the newly elected officers.

21 Violent Deaths List Plane Crash

Charlotte, May 17—(AP)—A survey today indicated that at least 21 persons died by violence in North Carolina during the week-end.

Eighteen of these were soldiers who died in the crash of their army troop carrier plane against the side of Gingersake mountain, near Morganton, Saturday.

Authorities of Fort Benning, Ga., the plane's home base, withheld names of the victims pending notification of the next of kin.

Mrs. Lillian Beale Welch, 42, was struck by an automobile and fatally injured as she crossed a downtown street in Gastonia.

The eight-year-old daughter of

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BRAZIL AIR FORCE BLASTS SUBMARINE

Bio de Janeiro, Brazil, May 17—(AP)—The Brazilian air force has sunk a U-boat off Maranh. It was announced today.

Transmission of the information was authorized by the Brazilian censorship.

STREET WORKERS IN CHARLOTTE STRIKE

Charlotte, May 17—(AP)—Workers in the city street division today joined employees of the sanitary department in the five-day-old work stoppage in what spokesman have termed a protest against retention of John Barbee as head of the department. There are around 30 employees in the street division.

Hull Makes Plea For Trade Pacts In Postwar World

Washington, May 17—(AP)—Secretary Hull advocated renewal of the administration's power to negotiate reciprocal trade pacts today with the assertion that the time has arrived to "chart the general direction of our postwar course, and begin to make decisions on policies."

Appearing before the Senate Finance Committee in behalf of House legislation for a two-year extension of the trade agreements act, Hull testified that "clearcut extension" of this authority would be of "even greater historical significance" than its original adoption.

The secretary of state said that the "proposal to renew the executive authority to make reciprocal trade agreements with other countries presented Congress with the first significant test of the country's basic sentiment toward the future." A vital factor in the economic, political and peace structure of the postwar years is involved, he said.

Heavy Reinforcements Sent to Attu by U. S.; Use of Gas Is Denied

British Planes Destroy Big German Power Dams

Plants on Ruhr and Eder Rivers Blasted; Flood Waters Cause Heavy Casualties

London, May 17—(AP)—British bombers attacked Berlin, the Ruhr and the Rhineland valley last night, and burst two of the largest dams in Germany, flooding the valleys of the Ruhr and Eder in huge waves.

Sir Archibald Sinclair, air minister, said walls of the Mohne and Eder dams were broken. One backed 134,000,000 tons of water, and the other 202,000,000 tons, he said. Their destruction constitute a powerful blow to industrial Germany, he added.

The Germans themselves reported officially on the Berlin radio that the flood tide took a heavy toll of casualties. Sinclair's disclosure was made in a speech celebrating Norwegian independence day.

"The operation was one of extraordinary difficulty and hazard," the air ministry declared. "Eight big Lancaster bombers were lost with their precious crews, but Wing Commander Gibson, who commanded an aircraft engaged in the operation, pressed home the attack against strong defenses and regardless of danger."

Sir Archibald called the RAF attack on Germany last night "a trenchant blow for the victory of the Allies."

He electrified the crowd by saying: "I have got news—great news—for you today. The bomber command struck last night heavy blows of a new kind at the sources of German war power."

The minister praised the bomber command staff and "those superbly daring and skillful crews who smote the Germans so heavily last night."

Subsequently, an air ministry communique said the Mohne dam had

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TWO AXIS VESSELS SCUTTLED BY CREWS

London, May 17—(AP)—Two Axis vessels attempting to break the Allied blockade of the continent have been scuttled after interception by British warships, an Admiralty communique said tonight.

U. S. Submarines Sink Six Vessels Of the Japanese

Washington, May 17—(AP)—American submarines raiding through Pacific waters have sunk six enemy ships, including one destroyer, and damaged another Japanese vessel, the Navy reported today.

A communique reporting the destruction told also of a torpedo bomber attack on four Japanese cargo ships off Buin, in the northern Solomons. One of the cargo ships was set afire.

This damage inflicted by American submarines brought to 232 the number of Japanese ships sunk, and probably sunk or damaged by undersea action in the Pacific since the war began. The total announced by the Navy includes 162 enemy ships sent to the bottom, 26 probably sunk and 46 damaged.

PRELUDE TO AIR ATTACKS



AMERICAN FORCES now battling Japs on Attu in the Aleutians are reported to be in sight of an early victory. Possession of the island would place U. S. planes within bombing range of the strong Japanese base of Paramushiro, about 750 miles away, and Tokyo, approximately 1,700 miles off. It would make untenable Jan-held Kiska. (International)

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PRIME MINISTER Winston Churchill is pictured in Washington as he broadcast to Great Britain on the third anniversary of the English Home Guard. He described the present time as "great days" and said that he and President Roosevelt were discussing and mapping invasion plans. (International)

Land Forces Backed By Sea and Air

Jap Radio Bares News of Attack, Alleging Use of Gas; Washington Otherwise Silent

(By The Associated Press)

Seaborne American forces are landing a series of reinforcements in the seven-day-old battle of Attu island, a Tokyo broadcast, said today, and heavy fighting now is in progress on the northern coast of the key Japanese outpost in the Aleutians.

The Tokyo radio said United States troops, striking in a three-pronged offensive, were attacking under cover of aerial and naval bombardment.

There was still no indication of Japanese warships attempting to challenge the Americans or to bring up reinforcements.

While emphasizing "tremendous numerical odds" in favor of the Americans, a Japanese army spokesman asserted that Japanese garrison troops had made a number of damaging counter attacks, and were holding their positions.

The spokesman, Major General at Yahagi, army press chief, was quoted by the Tokyo radio as declaring that United States troops, attempting to land on the east coast of the 35-mile-long island, were "completely annihilated."

The main attacking force, he said, effected a landing on the south coast last Tuesday morning, and succeeded in moving inland, but counter attacking Japanese soldiers assertedly drove them back to the beach that night.

A third United States contingent the broadcast said, and a pitched battle on the north coast in a synchronized attack Tuesday morning, battle is developing there.

The spokesman also made a propaganda charge that the Americans

HUGE TOLL OF AXIS SHIPS OFF AFRICA

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, May 17—(AP)—Seventy-one vessels were sunk, 103 probably sunk, and 120 damaged by North-west African air force units from November 8, 1942, to May 13, 1943, it was announced today.

BANKERS TO HEAR STATE PRESIDENT

Raleigh, May 17—(AP)—R. P. Holding, of Smithfield, president, headed an array of speakers billed for addresses before the North Carolina Bankers Association at its 47th annual convention here today.

Wild Rumors Tell Peril Of Italians

No Invasion Defense Expected; Report Says King Is To Abdicate

Berne, Switzerland, May 17—(AP)—Italy's grave position in an allied controlled Mediterranean was being hammered home to her people today as a part of Premier Mussolini's redoubled efforts to tighten his defenses, reports reaching neutral Switzerland said today.

At the same time the situation confronting Mussolini gave rise to a flood of rumors concerning the internal situation in Italy, the most sensational of which was a report by

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