

Iowa weather

Rain changing to snow and colder tonight with increasing northerly winds. Lows in upper 20s to lower 30s. Snow ending and becoming partly cloudy Friday. Colder, highs in 30s. Probability of measurable precipitation, 70 per cent tonight, 20 per cent Friday. High temperature Wednesday 47, low during the night 36. River stage 10.73, rise .02.

Briefly speaking...

Begin Panther trial

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — A jury of five Negroes and seven whites whose selection took nearly four months begins hearing testimony today in the trial of Black Panther Chairman Bobby G. Seale and Ericka Huggins, a local party member.

Seale and Mrs. Huggins are charged with kidnaping resulting in the death of a fellow Panther and aiding and abetting murder-offenses which carry the death penalty-plus conspiracy to kidnap and to murder. In addition, Mrs. Huggins is accused of binding with criminal intent.

Recover stolen art

PARIS (AP) — Police said today they have received 10 paintings valued at \$180,000 which were stolen from a local art gallery a year ago. The paintings included a Picasso, Utrillo, Modigliani and a Foujita. They had been left in a baggage check-room at the Montparnasse station.

New Gandhi cabinet

NEW DELHI (AP) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi formed a new cabinet today replacing half her former ministers. Then President V.V. Giri swore in Mrs. Gandhi, 12 ministers, 15 ministers of state and 8 deputy ministers.

The brief ceremony took place at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, the British viceroy's palace during the colonial period that ended with India's independence in 1947.

College outlook good

BOSTON (AP) — High school seniors have a better chance of getting into college this year than any of those in recent years, a survey report said Wednesday.

A consulting firm said the economic situation and the changing draft outlook were factors. The report said 96 per cent of the 352 two- and four-year colleges responding to the survey reported they still had openings for September, and 90 per cent had financial aid available.

Reject Rogers plea

JERUSALEM (AP) — Premier Golda Meir has rejected Secretary of State William P. Rogers' proposal for international guarantees instead of the territorial expansion Israel demands to secure her borders.

"We cannot trust Rogers' offer, even if it is proposed in good faith," Mrs. Meir told a meeting of her Labor party's Central Committee Wednesday night.

Senate probe ends

WASHINGTON (AP) — After nearly five weeks of conflicting testimony a Senate probe into alleged scandal in the giant military PX system has ended in charges touching the integrity of the investigating panel.

Finishing their interrogation of former Brig. Gen. Earl F. Cole, senators announced Wednesday they will turn his sworn testimony over to the Justice, Treasury and Defense departments for possible perjury and tax evasion action.

Merger not certain

DES MOINES (AP) — Iowa Power & Light Co. has its planned merger with Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric Co. of Davenport may be off unless the Federal Power Commission gives its approval by June 30.

The merger has been in the works for two years and the two firms originally intended to merge by June 30, 1970.

Iowa Power's board of directors decided Wednesday to set a June 30 deadline.

May be demoted

CHICAGO (AP) — The Chicago Tribune quotes a brigadier general who was cleared of a My Lai coverup as saying the Army now plans to demote him to colonel.

Brig. Gen. George H. Young was reported to have told the newspaper's Washington bureau he understood the action against him had been recommended by Gen. William C. Westmoreland, the Army chief of staff.

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Says State Representative Drake

New look set at school funding

By GIL DIETZ, Editor



RICHARD DRAKE
State Representative

A major change in tax funding for schools which would affect every Iowa resident is expected to be unveiled next week in Des Moines when the Iowa legislature resumes the current session.

State Representative Richard Drake (R-Muscatine) said here today legislators will be taking a close look at a proposed new formula of school financing involving limited local property taxes, state aid, and local school district surcharge on the state income tax. Legislators are in their home districts this week while the General Assembly is in recess.

"Sixteen possible school aid plans were put through a state computer," Drake said. "Plan number 10 is the one which is drawing the most support from the legislators and school officials I have visited."

Plan 10 would provide the same basic amounts for every public school student in Iowa, with per-pupil costs above

\$700 to be financed through the income tax surcharge.

Here's how Plan 10 would work:

The first \$350 for each pupil in a school district would be financed by local property tax. This would require 38 mills of taxation in Muscatine, compared to the present school general fund mill levy

of 50.5; or a savings of \$14.50 on each \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

The next \$250 of per-pupil costs would come from the state through income taxes. In addition, the state would grant up to \$100 per pupil to individual schools from the sales tax.

This formula would provide \$700 per year to finance the education of each school pupil.

Anything over \$700 in per-pupil costs would come from a Local district surtax on the state income tax, the amount of the surtax would depend directly on the expenses of each school district.

"Projecting the cost per student in the Muscatine Community school district for the 1972-73 school year would result in a surtax here of about

(Please turn to page 2)

High percentage of students are taking risk factor tests

Approximately 540 Central Junior High students as well as teachers and other employees at the school underwent tests at Zion Lutheran church this week when six medical personnel from the University of Iowa conducted a coronary risk factor study.

The Central Junior High students were among more than 3,000 Muscatine students to have been tested since November by the medical teams from Iowa City. The medical specialists have been coming to Muscatine at least twice a week for nearly four months to conduct the studies. Thus far 87 per cent of all elementary students and 70 per cent of all junior high students have taken part in the program. Several cases of high blood pressure have been found among the students as a

result of the testing.

Dr. William Connor and Dr. Ronald Lauer are the principal investigators in charge of projects. All findings are evaluated by them.

Mary Ann Ebbing, dietitian, is project coordinator. The coronary risk factor study includes searching for signs of diabetes, hypertension (high blood pressure) obesity, hyperlipidemia (high blood cholesterol) and high blood triglycerides (blood fats).

The testing of Muscatine High school students began today.

River Stages

Dam No. 9 17.6, rise .2
McGregor 11.4, rise 1.0
Guttenberg 7.8, fall .3
Davenport 9.5, fall .3
Muscatine 10.73, rise .02
Keokuk 10.8, rise .4

Organization of priests asking for a celibacy, marriage choice

BALTIMORE (AP) — An organization representing 60 per cent of the Roman Catholic clergy in the United States adopted a resolution today urging that priests be given a choice between celibacy and marriage.

The resolution was passed 193 to 18 by the House of Delegates of the National Federation of Priests Councils after five hours of debate which ran into the early morning hours.

If the proposal were to become Church law, it would permit priests who presently are celibate to take wives, and would open the way for priests who have left the ministry to marry to resume the religious life.

The federation represents 35,000 of the nation's 59,000 Roman Catholic clerics.

It is expected that the resolu-

tion will come up at an international synod of bishops called by Pope Paul VI for Sept. 23 following the resignation of some 25,000 priests in the past seven years, many in protest against the rule of celibacy.

The House of Delegates meeting also voted to:

—Condemn the war in Vietnam.

—Support the Rev. Phillip Berigan and five codefendants who have been charged by the government with plotting to kidnap presidential aide Henry Kissinger and destroy government property.

—Ask Congress for repeal of the Selective Service Act of 1967.

—Ask that men whose conscience would not allow them to serve in a specific war be granted conscientious objector status.



(Journal photo by Helen Weiershauser)

Drawing blood sample

Nell Backus, R.N., from the clinical research unit of University Hospitals, Iowa City, took a blood sample Tuesday from the arm of Jens Marshak when 540 Central Junior High students took part in a coronary risk factor study this week at Zion Lutheran church. Mary

Ann Ebbing, project coordinator is assisting. Mrs. D. W. Longtin, (right), one of five volunteer mothers, helped keep records. The blood test reveals whether or not the students may have problems with cholesterol, blood sugar, or triglyceride.

Concerning Social Security

Nixon request pondered

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Nixon's call for an immediate payroll-tax hike to finance higher Social Security benefits has been received on Capitol Hill with puzzlement and hints of resistance.

Nixon approved Wednesday a hastily enacted 10-per-cent increase in Social Security benefits for the 26 million beneficiaries. But he urged Congress to immediately increase the wage base on which the Social Security payroll tax is levied from \$7,800 to \$9,000.

The bill he signed contains such an increase, but not staged until next Jan. 1. The raise in benefits is retroactive, however, to last Jan. 1.

The increase, whenever effective, means a maximum annual tax raise of \$62.40 each on an employee and his employer.

Rep. Wilbur D. Mills, D-Ark., chairman of the House Ways

and Means Committee, declined comment on chances of hastening the effective date of the tax hike.

But he said a tax increase this year would more than cancel stimulation the Social Security benefit boost was calculated to provide for a still sluggish economy.

The benefit raise is expected to pump an extra \$3.6 billion to recipients, most of whom would be expected to spend the new money quickly.

Sources on the committee that shaped the legislation said all advance indications were that the administration, to feed the economy, would happily accept a benefit increase this year and a tax increase next—even though its original recommendation was for both in a single year.

However, Rep. John W. Byrnes of Wisconsin, senior Republican on the committee, said

he is sure Nixon's recommendation will get full consideration.

Byrnes said further changes in Social Security provisions are being considered in the over-all welfare-Social Security-medicare measure still before Ways and Means.

Mills agreed that these changes, including higher payments for widows and a relaxation in the limit on earnings retirees could receive without benefit loss, would cost more and might require financing changes.

Commercial power on a 440-volt line in the alley between 3rd and 4th Sts. downtown was disrupted for several periods this morning.

David Weston, distribution engineer for Muscatine Power and Water, said the power crews were checking transformers to determine the source of the problem.

The disruption effected only commercial power motors, and there was no general outage on the electrical circuits.

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(Journal photo by Jim Luetjen)

A 'token' exchange

Ron Cockshoot, of the K and D Clothing Store, is shown as he purchased some parking meter tokens from Mrs. Lois Greenwald, of the city clerk's office Wednesday. Muscatine businesses

will be giving the tokens to their customers to be used to pay for parking meter time while shopping. Tokens are now on sale at the city clerk's office.

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Ben Weiks



It's a lottery for who talks longest, us or the Paris Peace crowd!

Lack of prisoner of war mail miffs wives

WASHINGTON (AP) — Families of American prisoners of war in North Vietnam have received no mail from the men since early January after a marked upsurge last year.

An increase in mail was cited by administration officials last fall as indicating the government policy of applying public pressure to North Vietnam on the POW issue had brought improvements.

The Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, a New York peace group which relays POW mail from North Vietnam to families in the United States, says increased

war activity in Laos has resulted in delayed mail pickups.

The last letters arrived in the United States at the end of December and early January, but the latest date on the letters was about Dec. 3, a Pentagon source said.

Wives who have been getting mail over a period of years say a post-Christmas drought is not unusual, that mail usually resumes by summer.

But this year the wives are particularly miffed because of North Vietnamese statements during the past year all prisoners are allowed to write at least one letter a month.

Cora Weiss, co-chairman of

the Committee on Liaison, said the mail stoppages does not mean a policy change. She said the Laos war has restricted travel into North Vietnam and mail must be carried out by hand.

"But all mail which came to our committee for delivery to North Vietnam through mid-February did go in so that at least the servicemen who are detained have received mail," Mrs. Weiss said.

Mrs. Weiss said the two women who took the mail in should be returning soon and may bring mail out with them. She said the committee expected "to know something in the next week or 10 days."