

Veterans Bill Puts Democrat Chiefs on Spot

Rankin Proposal For Old-Age Pensions Would Wreck Budget

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 (UPI)—A stated rights Democrat appeared today to have put administration leaders over a barrel by proposing new veterans' benefits.

Chairman John E. Rankin (D., Miss.) of the House Veterans Committee plans to open hearings tomorrow on a bill to provide old-age pensions for all veterans of World Wars I and II.

Mr. Rankin said he's confident the measure will win committee approval and eventually be passed by the House. Veterans bills traditionally are tough to block once they reach the House floor.

Democratic congressional leaders are wondering where the money will come from if the bill does become law. President Truman has asked \$5.5 billion for veterans' programs and administration lieutenants were hoping that would be the maximum.

Mr. Rankin's pension bill could cost the government something like \$500 million the first year.

Other congressional developments:

World Co-op

CONGRESSIONAL sources said the State Department already is at work on the "world co-op" plan which President Truman outlined in his inaugural address. Under the President's proposal, U. S. technical know-how and risk capital would be used to raise living standards in backward countries of the world.

Cattle

A GROUP of western Senators asked President Truman to release an additional \$150,000 from his disaster relief fund to aid western cattlemen. The Chief Executive earlier this week authorized \$100,000 from this fund for emergency relief in the snow-bound range lands.

Labor Law

SOME Republican Senators are talking of a proposal to relax the present ban on the closed shop under any new labor law that is written. Under their plan, the closed shop would be permitted in those industries and plants where it had been in existence in the past. The closed shop was outlawed by the Taft-Hartley act.

Fillibuster

SENATOR JOHN C. STENNIS (D., Miss.), a leader in the southern fight against curbing Senate filibusters, said today he would "gladly support" any move to prevent prolonged debate on emergency measures affecting national security. But he made it plain that he will not retreat from his opposition to various antifilibuster proposals.

Housing

A GROUP of Republican Senators today put the finishing touches on their own long-range housing bill and probably will introduce it tomorrow. The measure will be their challenge to administration-supported housing legislation which calls for 1,050,000 public housing units in seven years, a big scale slum clearance program, and loans and grants for rural housing.

Allocations

THE SENATE Banking Committee voted unanimously today to approve a seven-month extension of the voluntary allocation program under which some scarce materials are rationed among industrial users. The action came after Democrats on the committee voted solidly against a Republican move to extend the program, now due to expire Mar. 1, for 18 months.

Steering

HOUSE Republican leaders have agreed tentatively to a change in their steering committee which governs GOP policy in the House, it was reported today. Under the proposed new setup, the size of the steering committee would be increased and membership would be determined largely on a geographical basis.

Webb

JAMES E. WEBB appeared certain today of quick Senate confirmation as Undersecretary of State. In recommending Mr. Webb's approval yesterday, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee made clear that it foresees an important administrative, rather than policy, role for him.

The full Senate will act on the nomination tomorrow.

Services Tomorrow For Senate Chaplain

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 (UPI)—Funeral services for the Rev. Dr. Peter Marshall, chaplain of the Senate, will be held tomorrow at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church where he was pastor.

Dr. Marshall died unexpectedly yesterday of a heart ailment. He was 46.

His passing drew expressions of sorrow from both congressional and religious leaders.

Schricker to Award Forestry Contest Prizes

Gov. Henry F. Schricker will present awards to winners of the Forestry Contest Friday afternoon in the 51st annual meeting of the Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association.

Hardwood lumber manufacturers and wholesalers in Indiana and adjoining states, comprising the association, will meet tomorrow and Friday in the Sevier Hotel.
