Weather

Partly cloudy and mild today and tonight with 10 to 20 per cent chance of rain; high, 65-75; low, near 35; cloudy with chance of showers tomorrow.

Details on Page 3

The Morning News

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Staff Photo by Fred Comegys

BRIDGE TO DISAPPEAR—Bulldozers are moving earth to fill in the old bed of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal under this bridge. When the earth is even with the former banks of the canal the steel superstructure will be dismantled. Widening and changing the course of the canal have resulted in a new railroad bridge.

Last of a tribe

Span nears end of road

By W. EMERSON WILSON

The last of the pivot bridges over the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, one built in 1852, will soon be buried under tons of dirt and disappear from sight.

This disturbs Brig. Gen. H. Wallace Cook, retired National Guard and Reserve officer, of Avondale farm near Chesapeake City, who believes the piers of the old bridge should be preserved because of their historical significance and because of the engineering skill required for their construction.

The canal's course has been changed and it is now nearly a quarter mile from its old course, which the bridge spanned. The pivot bridge was the original railroad bridge over the canal, which was a narrow lock canal in 1852. When the canal was widened in the 1920s a much larger iron lift bridge was built. It, too, will now disappear.

The new railroad bridge over the canal was completed and opened to traffic on the Delaware Road branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad last year. The tracks still run across the pivot bridge and the old iron bridge before arriving at the new bridge.

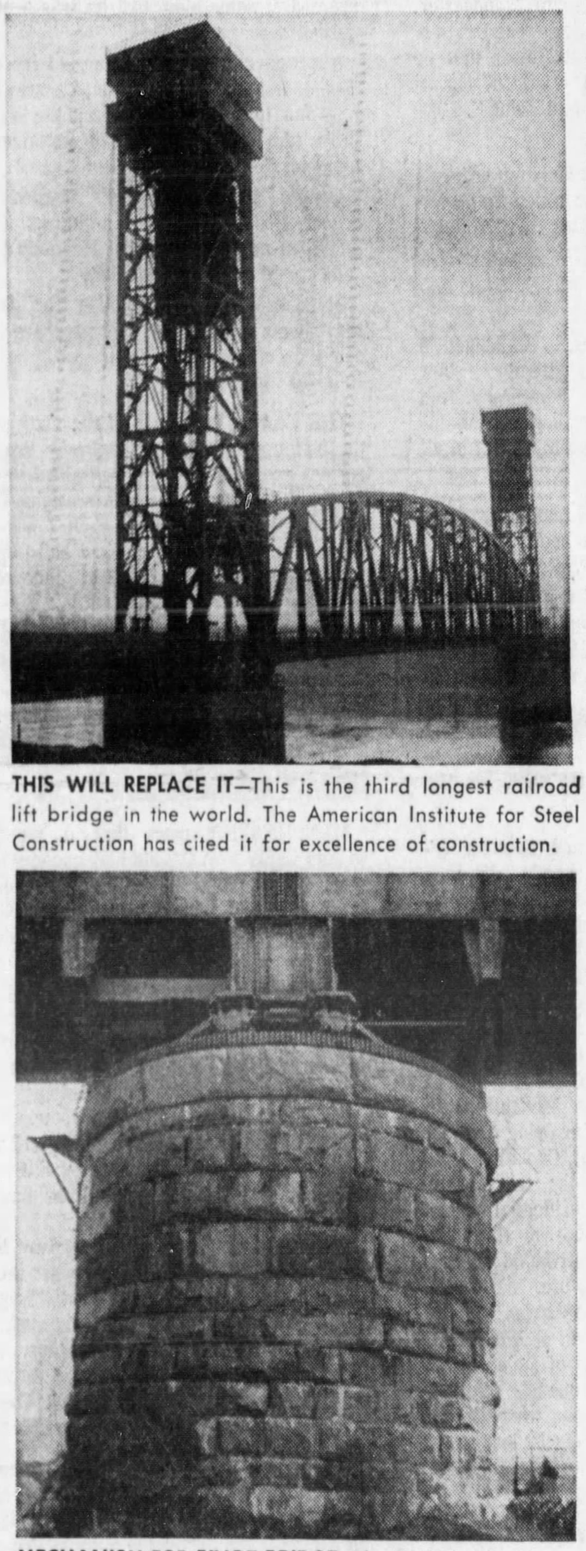
JOHN Quayle of the Army Corps of Engineers explained yesterday that work has started on filling in the old canal bed under the two bridges.

At present bulldozers are moving mountains of earth filling in the old bed and raising it to the level of the bridges. A spur will be run around the bridges so that there will be no interruption in rail traffic, then the earth will be filled directly under the bridges, the iron superstructure will be removed and then the track will be replaced on the direct line over the buried piers of the bridges.

The old bridges are owned by the Pennsylvania Railroad. Railroad officials feel that it would be impractical to retain them now that they are no longer in use, Walter Kautz of the Baltimore office of the railroad said yesterday.

The original gears for moving the old pivot bridge are still in place and workable, Kautz said. Once workers dismantle the bridge, he said, the railroad will be willing to donate the machinery and even the pier itself to any bona fide historical or preservation society which might want them, provided they are removed.

The present contract is for providing the fill for runaround east of the old bridges and for the laying of the track there. This project is expected to take about a year to complete. Then a contract will be let for dismantling the bridges, filling the land under them and relaying the tracks back in their original position.



THIS WILL REPLACE IT—This is the third longest railroad lift bridge in the world. The American Institute for Steel Construction has cited it for excellence of construction.

MECHANISM FOR PIVOT BRIDGE—The 1852 bridge swung back and forth on the wheel shown on top of this circular pier.

Frear mentioned

Baker testifies on stock deal

Compiled from Dispatches

WASHINGTON — Robert (Bobby) Baker testified yesterday that in 1961 he gave a Senate subordinate $13,750 to purchase stock for former Delaware Sen. J. Allen Frear Jr.

Frear, a Democrat, was a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission at the time.

In his testimony, Baker also said he was "reprimanded and cautioned" by the then Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson while in his position as secretary to the Democratic majority in the Senate.

"I was in essence moonlighting or sundowning, whatever you call it," he told a U.S. District Court jury. Baker never used President Johnson's name, saying only the "majority leader in 1960."

THE testimony came as special prosecutor William O. Bittman bore down on the thousands of dollars in cash that he said Baker had on hand in the early 1960s. Baker, former secretary to the Senate Democratic majority, was on the stand for the third day in his trial on charges of income tax evasion, fraud and conspiracy.

Frear could not be reached last night.

Robert F. Kelly, his former Washington aide, last night said Frear had told him recently he was going to Europe on business and planned to visit his daughter in Geneva. He is expected to return to this country today.

In yesterday's questioning, Bittman asked Baker if it wasn't true that on Oct. 31, 1961, Baker handed a Senate page boy, Richard Darling, $13,750 in cash for the purchase of stock in the Mortgage Guarantee Insurance Corp.

BAKER said that he was not the nominee — that is the stock was not purchased in his name. He said it was purchased for "Allen J. Frear."

Bittman did not pursue the questioning. The source of the $13,750 was not disclosed.

In 1959, Baker was permitted to purchase MGIC stock as an "insider" before it went on public sale, according to testimony given during a Senate Rules Committee's investigation.

A spokesman for the SEC said its regulations require commissioners to report sales or purchases of stock within three days of the action but that no check of Frear's dealings were possible because the "records aren't public."

FREAR, 63, of Dover, was elected as a U.S. senator from Delaware in 1948 and 1954. He was defeated in 1960 by U.S. Sen. J. Caleb Boggs, Republican.

In March 1961 President John F. Kennedy appointed him to the Securities and Exchange Commission. He served on the commission until October 1963 when he resigned. He gave no specific reason, but said he had been forced by illness to miss several SEC meetings.

The government called Frear as a witness briefly last Tuesday in an attempt to back up its claim that Baker and Wayne L. Bromley conspired to hide Baker's income. Bromley is a former close friend and associate of Baker.

IN his testimony Tuesday, Frear said that in August 1963 Baker called him in his office and told him that he (Baker) had a person that he wanted Frear to meet.

Frear said he told Baker that he was on his way to Capitol Hill. He later met Baker and the late Morris Forgash, then president of U.S. Freight Co. of New York City, he continued.

According to Frear, Baker said that Forgash had a problem with the Securities and Exchange Commission and asked him to do anything he could to help Forgash.

The testimony ended there.

U.S. Freight is one of several companies from which Baker received fees that were sent to Bromley. The government charges that Bromley was a funnel through which Baker put his income to avoid taxes.

THE government contends that

See BAKER—Page 3, Col. 4

Army aid to Mao reported

TOKYO (AP)—Chairman Mao Tze-tung's leadership yesterday was reported to have called the army into action for the first time to stamp out growing rebellion.

As a first act, soldiers were said to have seized control of Fangshan, a rebellious suburb of Peking.

But Japanese press reports said wall posters told of 60,000 "reactionaries" assembling in Manchuria to fight pro-Mao forces converging on the Manchurian industrial city of Changchun.

Chinese arriving in Hong Kong from Canton said Mao's opponents were collecting weapons and forming an army of peasants and workers in Kwangtung Province following reports of the success of a similar army in neighboring Kiangsi Province.

WALL posters said clashes occurred in Fangshan over the weekend and in Tientsin, 100 miles southwest of the Red Chinese capital.

In an effort to divest President Liu Shao-chi and his anti-Mao backers of any semblance of control in Peking, other wall posters announced creation of a revolutionary city government of workers, peasants, soldiers, students and teachers in the capital.

Japanese correspondents said wall posters announced that Premier Chou En-lai announced the calling up of the army to suppress opposition to Mao's proletarian cultural revolution,

See CHINESE—Page 3, Col. 1

January mercury in June-like orbit

January is expected to become even more June-like today with near record-breaking highs predicted for Delaware.

The mercury reached an unseasonable 64 yesterday but still was five degrees short of the record 69 degrees on Jan. 23, 1906.

The maximum mark for Jan. 24 is 70, set in 1950. Highs of between 65 and 70 are predicted for the Wilmington area today while the Delaware forecast ranges up to 74.

The January thaw, a meteorological phenomenon which occurs almost every year, makes maximums hard to beat this month, according to the weather man.

Johnson asks big increase in Social Security

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson proposed yesterday the biggest increase in Social Security benefits in 30 years. He said it would take 1.4 million older Americans out of poverty this year.

But the President's proposals, sent to Congress in a special message, include increases in Social Security taxes that would double by 1974 the amount deducted from many paychecks.

The scope of the proposed benefit increases, ranging from at least 15 per cent for all Social Security recipients to 50 per cent for the 2.5 million receiving minimum benefits, was outlined earlier in Johnson's Jan. 10 State of the Union Message.

Yesterday he spelled out the price which would be paid both by extending the amount of income on which Social Security taxes are levied and by raising the tax rate.

(Approximately 50,000 Delawareans would benefit from the proposed increases, according to Myron Milbouer, district manager of the Social Security Administration.)

CURRENTLY, Social Security taxes, including Medicare, amount to 4.4 per cent of income up to $6,600 a year, for an annual total of $290 for an individual receiving that much pay.

Johnson proposed that the taxable base be raised next year to $7,800, which would lift the maximum tax to $343. The tax rate, which had been scheduled to climb to 4.9 per cent in 1969, would go instead to 5 per cent, for a maximum of $390.

The President's message called also for further increases in the taxable base to $9,000 in 1971 and $10,800 in 1974, and for an increase in the rate to 5.55 per cent in 1973.

Thus, starting in 1974, a person earning $10,800 or more would pay $599 in annual Social Security taxes.

REPUBLICANS served notice they will give the tax increase close scrutiny. Rep. John W. Byrnes, R-Wis., senior GOP member of the House Ways and Means Committee, said Republicans will have to study the proposed benefit increases "and weigh their desirability against any tax increases they would require."

Rep. Thomas B. Curtis, R-Mo., another committee member, said he thinks the final outcome may be close to Republican proposals for an 8-per-cent increase in benefits plus a cost-of-living escalator clause, without any tax increase.

Democratic leaders, meanwhile, hailed the proposals. Senate Democratic leader Mike Manfield of Montana said Johnson's recommendations were "original, bold and imaginative."

But assistant Senate Democratic leader Russell B. Long of Louisiana, who is also chairman of the Finance Committee which will handle the legislation, said there is "a question

See JOHNSON—Page 3, Col. 1

But disagreement stays

Finance group meets, jointly

By GEORGE KENNEDY
Dover Bureau

DOVER — The Joint Finance Committee, all 15 members of it, got down to business yesterday afternoon.

That does not mean, however, that the Democrats and the Republicans have settled their quarrel over the makeup and control of the committee.

Before the session got under way, the three Democratic members of the House Appropriations Committee issued a statement saying:

"We would like to make it clear at the outset that we are here as members of the House Appropriations Committee and that we do not recognize that any joint legislative finance committee has been organized."

Sen. Russell D. F. Dineen, D-Wilmington, made a similar statement as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

THE House Democrats also said they might issue a minority report on the budget at the conclusion of the hearings.

But Dineen backed away from his earlier statement that his Senate committee would write its own version of the budget bill no matter what the joint committee does.

He said yesterday that the Democrats will try to reach an agreement with the Republicans to avoid the necessity of a separate bill.

The Republicans, who hold an 8-7 majority on the joint committee, passed a motion "reminding" the Democrats that "this is a duly constituted body."

The Democrats didn't vote on the motion and said they will not vote on any actions taken by the Republican-controlled joint committee.

FOR all practical purposes, though, the Democrats appeared to be admitting defeat in their efforts to get Republican agreement to a committee evenly divided between the Senate and House members and between the two parties.

With Rep. T. Lees Bartleson, R-Lindamere, as chairman, the committee began work by getting a briefing from Budget Director F. Earl McGinnes on the contents of the budget and on the kind of information available to committee members.

McGinnes was interrupted several times by two Republicans.

Sen. J. Donald Isaacs, R-Townsend, repeatedly asked whether McGinnes has veto power over all purchases by state agencies.

McGINNES each time explained that he rejects purchase orders submitted to his office only if the agency has failed to comply with some provision of the law or if there isn't enough money in the account being drawn on.

Rep. Joseph R. Murphy, R-Brookside, Park, tried to force McGinnes to concede that a budget provision requiring local schools to put up 10 per cent of the money for maintenance has the effect of raising taxes in the local districts.

The budget director and Bartleson said the provision appropriating $500,000 for the state's share of the repairs and requiring local participation was intended to forestall major repair jobs and to prevent separate supplemental appropriations to local districts for the repairs.

GOV. Charles L. Terry Jr. also got into the act yesterday,, denying that he ever considered preventing state agencies from testifying before a Republican-run Joint Financing Committee.

Although Democrats close to Terry had hinted strongly that this might be done, the governor said:

"It has been indicated clearly in the press that I have been giving thought to ordering state agencies not to appear before the Joint Finance Committee or individual committees in each house.

"I want it emphatically understood that it never entered my mind until I saw it in the paper. I would never, under any circumstances, suggest to any agency that it refuse to appear.

"In fact, if they refused to appear, I would use the power of my office to make them appear."

Under the law, the committee itself also has the power to compel the appearance before it of any state agency.

ISAACS yesterday also insisted that McGinnes refer to Bartleson as "Mr. Chairman" rather than as "Mr. Bartleson."

Bartleson countered by calling McGinnes "Mr. Budget Director."

After a brief executive session, the committee decided to meet again this afternoon at 1:30.

Bartleson issued a call to all agencies to seek hearings before the committee "if they have any quarrel with their allotments" in the governor's budget proposal from which the committee will work.

He also issued the traditional invitation to the public to attend the hearings, which are open to but usually attended by no one from the public.

Babiarz stays city bus study

Mayor John E. Babiarz vowed yesterday that he would not move on his proposal for study of a public takeover of Delaware Coach Co. until the Wilmington transit strike is settled.

And hopes for an early settlement that were raised by the mayor's proposal went down hill yesterday when negotiations again collapsed without company and union officials even meeting face to face.

The union accused the company of "holding a double-barrelled shotgun at the heads of its employes and the public."

New Castle Executive William J. Conner took virtually the same position as Babiarz. He said he sees no merit in the proposed study unless the buses are running while the study is under way.

"THERE will be no action until the buses are back on the streets," Babiarz told reporters as he moved back and forth between separate meetings with company and union officials in the Wilmington Public Building.

"We will not initiate the committee and will not ask City Council for the money until the buses are rolling," Babiarz said.

Babiarz said he made that condition clear to the negotiators before he made his proposal public Friday night but he did not mention the condition when he announced his plan at a press conference that night.

His plan calls for creation of a five-member committee to study the feasibility of public acquisition of mass transit in metropo-

See BUS—Page 3, Col. 5