

De Gaulle, Wilson Discuss Relations

PARIS (UPI) — President Charles de Gaulle and British Prime Minister Harold Wilson

opened diplomatic talks today aimed at improving chilly relations between the two countries. British sources said there was a "relaxed and friendly" atmosphere.

It was the first meeting between British and French leaders since De Gaulle vetoed British membership in the European Common Market in 1963. The last such Anglo-French meeting was in 1962 when the old "entente cordiale" was beginning to fade.

In their two-hour meeting today with only interpreters present they discussed a broad field of problems including East-West relations, NATO and the Middle East and Africa.

British sources said they concentrated on matters on which there is "possibility of constructive cooperation." This apparently meant they held back the time being from discussion of the Viet Nam crisis and other troublesome problems.

However, the British sources said Wilson and De Gaulle "did not gloss over differences."

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now has subsided and that the two countries should seek to put their relations on a friendlier working basis in every field.

But two leaders faced a formidable number of disagreements on such questions as the Common Market, relations with the United States, NATO, the gold standard and Southeast Asia.

New Plan Would Keep Some Hospitals Open

WASHINGTON (UPI) — At least some of the 14 veterans' hospitals and old soldier's homes due to be shut down

July 1 could be saved under a compromise reported under discussion today.

President Johnson lent credence to the report Thursday when he told his news conference that he now had "some doubt" about the move, which brought cries of outrage from Capitol Hill when it was first announced last year.

The Chief Executive said he had been studying the testimony on the closures given during six weeks of hearings by the House Veterans Affairs Committee. He said he directed Veterans Administration Chief William J. Donovan to make a personal inspection of each of the facilities scheduled for closing.

"I am very anxious to see that no injustice is done," he said. "Our people, all of them who studied the details of it, feel they were justified in that decision but candor compels me to admit I have seen some of the hospitals and some of the testimony."

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Legislative Action

SALEM (UPI) — The following measures were approved by the Senate Thursday.

SB 7—Mandates Congress to pass legislation to reimburse city of Unatilla for loss of revenue due to federal acquisition of about half of city's streets, sewers and water mains due to construction of John Day dam.

SB61—Increases fees for barbers.

SB 86—Gives Game Commission authority to enter agreements for grazing of livestock on lands reserved for game browse.

SB 120—Provides for collection of miscellaneous claims; allows state agencies to write off uncollectable claims.

SB 299—Allows law improvement committee to accept private or public grants.

SB 302—Sets time limit for filing of documents dealing with sale of real property by executors or administrators of estates.

HB 1197—Clarifies procedures for finding of fact by courts.

HB 1305—Allows farmers to use vehicles with farm license plates for personal use such as hunting, transporting children to school, or shopping.

HB 1468—Requires heavy construction equipment being transported on highways to pay weight-mile tax.

HB 1500—Allows common school fund loan security to include buildings as well as land as security.

HB 1564—Clarification of laws dealing with regulation of highway advertising signs.

HB 1590—Removes ceiling on amount of state treasurer time deposits in state banks.

HB 1600—Requires licensing of all businesses advertising debt consolidation service, such as auto dealers using debt consolidation as sales attraction.

SALEM (UPI) — The following bills were passed by the House Thursday.

HB 1196—Broadens laws pertaining to diseased animals (House concurred in Senate amendments and re-passed bill).

HB 2057 — \$3,446,585 Public Utility Commission budget.

HB 2071 — \$820,044 Supreme Court budget.

HB 2073 — \$127,035 Tax Court budget.

HB 2105 — \$3,150,770 OCI budget.

HB 2106 — \$4,978,855 MacLaren budget.

HB 1008—Provides that delegates to national party conventions select own alternates.

HB 1271—Sets standards for incorporation of cities within urbanized areas.

HB 1498 — Phases out inventory and other personal property taxes; imposes one per cent net income tax on business.

The following bill was signed by the governor:

SB 320 — Allows vote on levy to finance organization at time voters determine formation of area education district.

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Campaign For Voting Bill Support Speeds Up With Change Accord

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The drive for broad congressional support of the voting rights bill picked up speed today with agreement on changes designed to pinpoint the measure's impact and to answer attacks on its constitutionality.

Department officials worked to polish the revisions, which gained preliminary approval late Thursday at a conference of House and Senate leaders and Atty. Gen. Nicholas Katzenbach.

"There appears to be agreement on some changes," Senate Republican Leader Everett M. Dirksen told newsmen following the two-hour meeting in his office.

A House judiciary subcommittee ended its hearings on the measure yesterday. But the Senate Judiciary Committee, which has an April 9 reporting date on the bill, was meeting today and Monday to hear additional witnesses.

After the congressional leadership meeting Thursday, Katzenbach was asked if the proposed changes "fortified the constitutionality" of the bill. He replied that he "never doubted its constitutionality."

But Dirksen quickly added that doubts had been expressed by critics of the measure and that "to meet that doubt we have looked at phraseology and technical changes." He also indicated that some changes would bring additional counties under the bill's coverage.

The idea is "to send the fire wagon where the fire is," the Illinois Republican said.

Sen. Harry F. Byrd, D-Va.,

It was the first fatal auto accident within The Dalles city limits in three years, police said.

Poe was paroled from the Oregon State Prison in August of 1953 after serving 31 years on conviction of slaying Silver City City Marshal Hans J. Iverson.

Two persons were killed and four others injured in a spectacular two-car crash on the Baldock Freeway in Portland Thursday night.

Police said a car driven by Etienne Shomake, 35, Beaverton, struck the metal divider and flipped through the air and landed on the front of an auto driven by Edna May Cooper, 40, Tigard.

Mrs. Cooper and the Shomake woman were killed.

The four persons injured were passengers in the Cooper car. They were Albert Berard, 42, and Clarence Shockey, 52, both of Tigard; and Dick Darrell, 21, and Henry Stavon, 52, both of Portland.

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