

Congressional, Judicial Pay Raises Urged

By WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST
WASHINGTON (AP)—A move to give members of Congress and most federal judges an 80 per cent pay raise got top priority rating today in the House Judiciary Committee.

And if Committee Chairman Celler (D-NY) has his way, the House will have an opportunity to vote on the legislation within a month.

"It will be passed too," he said in an interview.

Celler, who introduced the pay hike measure at the opening of the new House session yesterday, said he will ask the Judiciary Committee to consider it within the next few weeks. House leaders don't want to delay action on the bill until next year, when all House members are up for election.

Separate legislation to raise the pay of postal workers and all other federal employees by perhaps 5 to 10 per cent is scheduled for early consideration by the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

"The increase in the cost of living, the increase in comparative salaries in business, the inequities within the whole government salary structure simply justify these adjustments," Celler said.

His bill would make the pay of members of Congress \$22,500 annually, exclusive of a \$2,500 expense allowance. Congressmen now receive \$12,500 plus the \$2,500 expense item.

Justices of the Supreme Court would be raised from \$25,000 to \$35,000 with the chief justice receiving \$50,000 more than the associate justices, as he now does.

Circuit Judges, Court of Claims Judges and Judges of the Customs and Patent Appeals Court would be boosted from \$17,500 to \$25,000. District judges would receive \$22,500, a raise of \$7,500.

Judges of the Customs Court and the Tax Court would be raised from \$15,000 to \$17,500.

U.S. attorneys and their assistants would be given salaries based on the size of their districts and their duties, the range being from \$12,000 to \$20,000 for the attorneys and from \$6,000 to \$15,000 for their assistants. Their pay now is fixed by the attorney general.

Wichita Falls Boy Wins State Jaycee Contest 2nd Time

For the second consecutive year, a student of Wichita Falls High School has been the state winner of the Voice of Democracy contest. He is Mike Daves, a senior. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Daves.

The "Voice of Democracy" is a contest sponsored on the local level by the individual Jaycee organizations; on the state level by the Texas Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Mike is a staff member of the Wichita Falls High School paper, the Coyote News; a member of the Latin Club; vice president of the National League and a member of the Senior Council. Only 16 years of age, he is a licensed Methodist minister and plans on making a career in that profession. Already becoming well known throughout the state for his speaking ability, he won the 1954 state essay contest on Methodist Hospital; placed second in the Texas Interscholastic League regional contest and in the regional Optimist declamation contest.

As Texas winner, he will compete in the national contest, which also will be judged by transcription. There will be entrants from each of the 48 states, the District of Columbia, Alaska and Hawaii. Four co-equal national winners will be selected, each receiving a \$500 scholarship and week-long expenses-paid trip to Washington, D. C. and Colonial Williamsburg, Va.

Second place winner in the Texas contest was Gwen Lareau, a senior at Abilene High School, with third place going to Marjorie Harris, who attends Booker T. Washington High School at Dallas.

Filipino Urges Asian Economic Union Plan

MANILA (AP)—Vice President Carlos P. Garcia said last night the Philippines would urge Manila Pact nations to establish an Asian economic cooperation union to promote regional trade.

"It would also strengthen the resistance of member nations against Communist aggression," said Garcia, who also is foreign secretary.

He said the plan would include a currency system, similar to the European Payments Union which would clear trade barriers arising from currency differences.

Grain Fraud Case Indictment Upheld

HOUSTON (AP)—Federal District Judge Ben C. Connally refused yesterday to dismiss an indictment against E. H. Thornton Sr., former general manager of the Galveston Wharves, and several officers of a grain firm.

Thornton and several officials of the Bunge Corp. are charged with conspiracy to defraud the government through collection of export subsidies on inferior Canadian grain.

The trial has been set for Jan. 24 in Galveston.

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