LOCAL WEATHER
Partly cloudy to cloudy today and tomorrow with widely scattered thundershowers. Southerly winds on the coast. High temperatures yesterday, 86; low, 70.

MORNING ADVOCATE

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Volume 31, No. 303 · Entered Second Class Matter Post Office, Baton Rouge, La. · Baton Rouge, La., Sunday Morning, April 29, 1956 · Associated Press, International News Service and United Press · 116 Pages · Ten Cents

Mayor, 2 Others Die in Crash

WHERE MAYOR, OTHERS DIED—Bodies of three men, identified as Mayor-President Jesse L. Webb Jr., Dr. Kimbrough Owen and Paul Pittman, are removed from the Cessna 180 which crashed and burned near Lansing, Mich., late yesterday. Mayor Webb and Dr. Owen were en route to a metropolitan planning session at Michigan State University, and Pittman was piloting the plane.—AP wirephoto.

Lansing, Mich. Plane Crash Fatal to Jesse L. Webb Jr., Kimbrough Owen, P. O. Pittman

Eyewitnesses to Crash Report Light Plane Lost Wing Before Crashing, Burning on Farm

Mayor-President Jesse L. Webb Jr., Dr. Kimbrough Owen of LSU and Paul O. Pittman, special deputy, were killed last night when their light plane crashed and burned near Lansing, Mich.

Mayor Webb, 33, and Dr. Owen, 40, specialist on state and local government, were being flown to Lansing to attend a National Conference on Metropolitan problems being held at Kellogg Center, Michigan State University.

They were flying in a Cessna 180 aircraft which belongs to the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's office and was being piloted by Pittman, 43. The crash occurred as they approached Capital City Airport at Lansing.

Witnesses at the scene told police that the plane lost a wing, fluttered to the ground, exploded and burned. According to reports from Lansing, the bodies were burned beyond recognition.

Sheriff Bryan Clemmons said last night that he and a party of local persons were attempting to get commercial airline space to fly to Michigan and return with the bodies. Sheriff Clemmons said the trip will be made early this morning, weather providing.

Left Yesterday

The three men left Baton Rouge early yesterday morning. The crash occured at approximately 6:02 p.m. yesterday.

The Ryan Airport tower said that Pittman filed a flight plan for Memphis, Tenn. and left here at 4:43 a.m. The plane landed at Memphis at 6:49 a.m. and gassed up, according to the Memphis airport communications bureau.

Memphis airport personnel reported that the plane left there at 7:50 yesterday morning, on a flight plan that listed Sky Harbor, Ind. as destination. Sky Harbor is a private field about 14 miles from Indianapolis, Ind. By-passing Sky Harbor, the plane landed at Indianapolis Municipal Airport at 11:22 a.m. and cancelled the flight plan from Memphis, personnel at Indianapolis reported last night.

Filing a flight plan from Indianapolis for Lansing with an estimated time of arrival listed as 2:30 p.m. yesterday. Pilot Pittman landed instead at Fort Wayne, Ind., radio and weather bureau personnel at Fort Wayne said.

Fort Wayne communications said that at 12:53 p.m. Pittman

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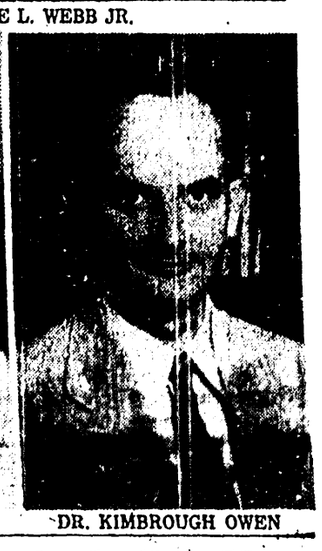
MAYOR JESSE L. WEBB JR.

PAUL O. PITTMAN



DR. KIMBROUGH OWEN

McConnell Is Serving as Acting Mayor

Council to Appoint Mayor-President Under Charter Terms

Councilman Frank J. McConnell, president pro-tempore of the Council for the past 3½ years, takes over as acting head of the local government following the tragic death of Mayor-President Webb in a Michigan plane crash yesterday.

Under the plan of government, the City-Parish Council fills the vacancy in the mayor-president's office by a majority vote, five of nine members. The appointee serves until Dec. 31 when Webb's current term was to expire.

The appointment would have no effect on next July's Democratic primary for mayor in which Webb was already an announced candidate.

The final decision of the Council however can be to defer making an appointment until after the election is decided. The Democratic nominee at that time could be then appointed.

To Continue Acting

If such a procedure is carried out, McConnell would continue to serve as acting mayor. McConnell was named president pro-tempore of the Council when it took office in 1954.

FRANK J. McCONNELL

There was no indication last night, however, of when the Council will act or what course it will take.

The last mayor of Baton Rouge who died in office was Turner Bynum, who died in December, 1922, not long after taking office.

McConnell actually became acting mayor when Mayor-President Webb left yesterday morning. The plan of government provides that the president pro-tempore serve as an acting head of the government whenever the mayor-president is out of the parish.

McConnell last night said he plans no changes in the mayor's office staff and said he will follow his same practice of running the office in the same manner as Webb.

McConnell, 41, lives at 1633 St. Rose St. He was elected to the present Council after having served on a committee which made

(Continued on Page 13-D, Col. 7)

Webb and Owen Joked While Planning Trip

Mayor-President Was To Complete Study For Pilot's License

Mayor-President Webb and Dr. J. Kimbrough Owen joked and quipped about flying to East Lansing, Mich., in a light plane when they made arrangements for the trip earlier last week.

The two, who worked together closely on the Plan of Government Study Committee during recent months, made plans for the special flight after the committee's last meeting.

Webb said he had obtained the use of a Sheriff's Department Cessna 180 to make the trip because the commercial airline schedule called for a relatively prolonged layover in Chicago before making connections for East Lansing.

The mayor-president expressed a great deal of interest in the trip. For the past month or so he had been taking private flying lessons before coming into his office each morning. Last week he completed his first solo flight.

Was Studying

He was scheduled to go to New Orleans after returning from Michigan to take the Civil Aeronautics Board examination for a pilot's

(Continued on Page 4-A, Col. 6)

Education Board Asks Hike in School Monies

The State Board of Education passed along to the Legislature yesterday requests for 58 million dollars for capital outlay funds for state colleges, trade schools and special schools along with a proposal for a 48 million dollar increase in school revenues.

Board members asked that "as much as possible" be provided for capital outlay, indicating they expected the funds to be provided over a period of years.

The board delayed action on the request for a hike in educational funds, but passed it along as an "estimate of needs." Col. George T. Madison of Bastrop said he would not want to make a recommendation until the budget had been studied further.

A meeting was set for May 17, three days after the Louisiana Legislature convenes and presumably specific action will be taken at that time. The schools are requesting 160 million dollars, a 48 million dollar increase to provide salary increases for teachers and bus drivers and state allocation of $55 per educable child in each parish. The 58 million dollar capital outlay request would swell the sum to well over the 200 million dollar mark.

Brief Meeting

The board met briefly in open session yesterday after two full days of committee meetings. It held an executive session when reports were that matters dealing with segregaton came up. Reports were that at least one matter under study concerned establishment of graduate school at Southern University. Negroes have been admitted to the LSU graduate school under court order. There is presently no graduate school for Negroes in the state. Board mem-

(Continued on Page 4-A, Col. 3)

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Governor Gives Statement on Fatal Crash

Gov. Kennon, who learned of the fatal East Lansing, Mich., crash while attending the ice show at LSU last night, issued the following statement from his seat:

"Our Capital City, our State University and all Louisiana are touched by this tragedy which claimed three of our finest public servants and civic leaders.

"To the close relatives, I express sympathy on behalf of our state and the people in whose service they were. Their families are in the prayers of all Baton Rouge this Sabbath Day.

"The good these men have accomplished will live long in the minds, hearts and memories of their fellow citizens."

Barton Comments

John Barton, president of the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce, issued the following statement last night:

"Baton Rouge and Louisiana today have suffered a great loss. Aside from the grevious loss of life we have also lost leadership which both the city and the state can ill afford to lose. We all offer our prayers to our new mayor, Frank McConnell, and pledge to him the last ounce of our support.

"To the families of the bereaved, all Louisiana and Baton Rouge extend sincerest sympathy. The good that these men have done will live forever as monuments to their devotion to those they have served so well."

Official Returns Show Close Vote On Amendment 1

Gov.-elect Earl K. Long missed by less than 1,000 votes defeating a constitutional amendment requiring two-thirds legislative approval for new taxes, official returns showed yesterday.

Gov. Kennon announced the official results of the April 17 general election and Secretary of State Wade O. Martin Jr. promulgated returns.

Long, other state officials, legislators and local officials formally were elected in the balloting.

But six constitutional amendments—two opposed by Long — drew most of the voter interest. All six were approved.

Long stumped the state in opposition to amendments number one and three, concentrating his fire on the first amendment which he contended would tie any governor's hands.

After he saw a light voter turnout election day, Long predicted both would pass, but late returns steadily trimmed the margin on number one.

Finally, number one, requiring two-third vote of the Legislature for tax raises or new taxes was approved by 767 votes, 104,283 to 103,516.

It was favored by only 16 of 64 parishes.

Long already has promised to bring the issue before the voters again in the November Presidential election, when he predicts a heavier vote will repeal the amendment.

Amendment number three, reducing the taxing power of the Orleans levee board, also opposed by Long, passed 111,129 to 90,272.

Other amendments:

No. 2 — Exempt International

(Continued on Page 4-A, Col. 4)

Hammarskjold Talks With Egypt's Leaders

Tries to Translate Cease-Fire Agreement Into Enduring Peace

CAIRO, Egypt, April 28 (AP)—Dag Hammarskjold met with Egyptian leaders today in an effort to translate the cease-fire agreement with Israel into an enduring Middle East peace.

The close-mouthed U. N. Secretary General flew here from Beirut, Lebanon, for what likely will be the last round of his mission before reporting to the Security Council. He was closeted in short order with Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Fawzi.

Cease-Fire Pledged

Hammarskjold came here after obtaining the pledges of Egypt, Israel and Syria to a cease-fire along their borders, and conditional pledges from two other Arab states, Lebanon and Syria. The result has been a decided lowering of tension.

He was primarily interested on his second visit to Cairo in physical arrangements for making the cease-fire stick along the Israeli-Egyptian front.

Suggestions for such arrangements have included an increase in the number of U. N. truce observers, mobile patrols, observation posts for U. N. personnel at strategic border points, and the withdrawal of troops from immediate contact on either side of the demarcation line.

Propose 500-yard Withdrawal

On troop withdrawals, the Egyptians have suggested pulling the troops back about 500 yards. But Hammarskjold is reported to have urged simply that the opposing troops be kept out of sight from each other with the actual distance of withdrawal determined by local geography and circumstances.

Israel is reported to have objected that the Egyptian proposal would leave some Israeli border settlements without protection. Syria also has objected that a withdrawal would oblige her to pull back from the Sea of Galilee and put her to a disadvantage militarily in case the Israelis re-

(Continued on Page 13-D, Col. 6)

Two-Gun Bandit Shot to Death Leaving Store

GLOSTER, Miss., April 28 — An unidentified bandit was shot to death tonight in the door of the Gloster Piggly Wiggly store by Night Marshal Ed Ziegler when the robber — a 20-gauge sawed-off shotgun in one hand and in the other a .38 revolver and $2,000 cash loot from the store—refused to surrender.

Ziegler fired, his gun muzzle only inches away, when the robber whirled at the officer's order to drop the weapons and raise his hands, guns still in hand.

P. J. Haydell, store operator who had been forced to put the day's receipts of about $2,000 in a sack and give it to the bandit, leaped for the robber's guns when the man began to whirl. Haydell himself barely escaped wounding by the shot that felled the robber, the bullet almost piercing the bandit's body through.

An approaching customer, Mrs. Gene McDavid, was credited with racing a block to summons Ziegler when, about to enter the store, she discovered the robbery in progress.

Officers said the bandit died about five minutes after Ziegler felled him. On the body were found only a key, $6 in money and a crucifix. Sheriff Kenner Harvey of Amite County and Mississippi State Police were attempting, by description and otherwise, to identify the dead man. The body was taken to the Brown Funeral Home.

Officers said that Haydell was at the cash register and about a dozen teustomers were in the store at near closing time, about 8 p.m.

The bandit entered, the shotgun in one hand and the revolver in the other; threatened the customers and Haydell with both weapons and ordered Haydell to "put the money in a paper sack."

Haydell obeyed.

The bandit was backing toward

(Continued on Page 4-A, Col. 4)

Council Receives Courthouse Bond Election Returns

City-Parish Council members yesterday afternoon officially promulgated the results of Friday's courthouse bond election which approved a $1,300,000 improvement and also hear protests from residents on 16 streets which are proposed to be paved on a Council order.

Unofficial returns from the courthouse election were posted as the official returns. They showed 2,131 votes for, 1,534 against. In assessment, $8,187,320 was for, and $4,810,975 against.

The Council also authorized Bodman & Murrell, local architects, to proceed immediately with plans for the four-story addition which is part of the courthouse renovation and improvement plan.

200 Turn Out

Almost 200 residents from the streets proposed to be paved appeared at a two-hour public hearing. Many of them experssed opposition to the plan and signed petitions against the paving.

If more than 40 per cent of the owners, in frontage, oppose the paving plan, the project will be abandoned. However, a spot check yesterday showed that the opponents signing protest petitions might have fallen short of the 40 per cent figure.

Parish Atty. Gordon Kean said that it will take a "day or two" to tabulate the petitions signed yes-

(Continued on Page 4-A, Col. 2)

Eli L. Scott Dies Instantly In Auto Crash

A coroner's jury last night returned a verdict of accidental death for a 35-year-old man who was killed instantly in Baker when his auto hit two vehicles on La. 19, careened into a ditch and turned over.

Eli Leroy Scott, 833 Magnolia Dr., died about 6 p.m. yesterday from a broken neck and a crushed skull, said Dr. D. L. Gordon, deputy parish coroner, at the inquest held last night at Hollabaugh-Seale Funeral Home.

State troopers investigating the accident said Scott's car was traveling north on Baker Rd. (La. 19) when it struck the rear of a pickup truck, side-swiped the front of a halted auto, and then turned over in a ditch on the opposite side of the road. Scott was alone in his car, troopers said.

Occupants of the pickup truck and the second auto, both of which were headed south on Baker Rd., were uninjured, police said. Driver of the truck was James W. McDonner, 28, 3183 Huron St. Passengers with him were his wife, Margaret, and three small children. Driver of the second car was Milton K. Haire, 45, of Baker. On the front seat with him was his young son, state troopers said.

Witnesses to the accident, who testified at the coroner's inquest, said Scott's car appeared to be traveling faster than the speed limit just before the crash occurred. They heard Scott's brakes screech seconds before the collision, witnesses added.

Also investigating the accident at the coroners' inquest was Jack Cullen, special investigator for the parish district attorney's office.

Deadline Memo Issued on Award Of Golden Deeds

Midnight Tuesday, May 1 has been set as deadline for the nomination of Golden Deeds Award, the Award Committee reminded yesterday.

Stressing that anyone may submit the name and qualifications of a nominee and all clubs are urged to submit nominations, the committee said individuals and not organizations will be considered.

Names should be submitted to the Inter Civic Club Council Award Committee, c/o State Times, Mrs. Ruth C. Oberling, chairman. Nominees must have a continuous record of outstanding civic service and have been active in civic work for the past year without pay. The work must not have been done in the regular line of duty and no one holding political office is eligible.

Presentation of the award will be made at a banquet at Mike & Tony's on Thursday, May 24. The winner's name will be announced May 9, the morning after the balloting.

Bomb Explodes; Four Hurt

DAYTON, Ohio April 28 (AP)—A homemade bomb in a box opened as a gift exploded today in a house where relatives had gathered for two contrasting family events — a wedding and a funeral.

Bridegroom Hurt

The blast left the prospective bridegroom, Andrew Donald Dixon, 27, a University of Dayton senior, injured seriously. Three women relatives suffered minor injuries.

The wedding was canceled, but the funeral, for Andrew's father, John C. Dixon, 64, was held this afternoon as scheduled.

Police said they had no clues as to identity of who left the box on Dixon's front porch this morning. The only motive they could offer was that it might have been prompted by a "grudge"" against Dixon by a former inmate of a detention home. Dixon had been recreation director at the home for a time.

Police tonight were working on the theory a "disgruntled suitor" was responsible for the bomb. Said Capt. Carl W. Coburn, chief of Montgomery County detectives:

No Motive

"We haven't as yet definitely established a motive, but someone sure had it in for Dixon."

At first detectives said the only motive they could think of was the bombing might have been prompted by a "grudge" held against Dixon by a former inmate of a detention home where Dixon once had worked as a recreation director. But tonight Coburn dis-

(Continued on Page 4-A, Col. 8)

Democratic Committee to Meet May 8 on Election; Talk on Politics Likely

By JAMES MCLEAN
Associated Press Writer

Louisiana Democratic leaders, guided by views of Gov.-Elect Earl K. Long, meet May 8 and probably will talk about presidential politics.

The call went out yesterday for a session of the 160-man Democratic State Central Committee.

Actually, the official purpose of the meeting in the House of Representatives at 1 p.m. is to set up Senate and congressional election machinery for the July 31 and Sept. 4 party primaries.

Advance indications from committee members, however, are that some speechmaking about the Democratic presidential hopefuls can be expected.

No decision is likely. The committee, with Long in the saddle, already has named a 24-vote delegation of 80 people. And it is uninstructed. Long is the head of the delegation.

Long, who returns to the mansion a third time May 15, remained in the Adlai Stevenson camp in 1952 when newly elected Gov. Kennon bolted to support President Eisenhower.

And the next chief executive repeatedly has talked about how he prefers Stevenson, with Sen. Kefauver a good choice for the second spot on the ticket. He also has expressed fondness for Illinois Sen. Paul Douglas and Ohio Gov. Frank J. Lausche.

But Long is still watching the field without committing himself.

The dominant political figure in Louisiana wants to know how candidates view the golden controversy over the oil-wealthy tidelands, since Louisiana has a dispute with the federal government over its

(Continued on Page 4-A, Col. 4)

Murder Trial Stalls Over Tape Recorder

A stubborn defense for cab driver Edgar Borders, pressing at every possible point, last night ground to another halt the slow-moving trial of Borders on a first degree murder charge.

The state, after successfully introducing a written statement made by Borders to officers, sought then to offer a tape-recorded, question-and-answers interview of Borders at the parish jail by a WJBO staffer, Walter Hill.

The Objection

The defense objected to the offer on grounds the state had not established a "chain of possession" of the recording between the time it was given to the district attorney's office and the offer in court.

Dist. Atty. J. St. Clair Favrot and Asst. Tom Pugh told Dist. Judge Jesse Johnson the witness they would have to use, Investigator Jack Cullen, was unavailable at the time due to an emergency assignment. The judge then recessed the trial until Monday morning, ordering the jury sequestered over the weekend.

Borders is charged in connection with the April 5 death of James W. Parker Jr., then newly released from a term at the penitentiary at Angola. Parker, who concededly had been a passenger in a cab driven by Borders, was run over and killed by an Illinois Central freight train at the Dunbar St. crossing, north of the downtown business district and near the Mississippi River.

The state contends Borders placed Parker, alive, on the tracks.

No Mistrial

A defense motion for a mistrial, made early yesterday, was overruled and a parade of witnesses continued.

A Saturday night session, ordered by Judge Johnson for 7 p.m., lasted not quite two hours.

It began with a recall by the state of Deputy Sheriff E. E. Reeves, who had testified at length earlier. With the recall, Favrot offered as evidence a written repetition of a statement made at the parish jail by Borders after his arrest, to Reeves, Pugh, Sheriff's Lt. Tom Henderson and other officers, including City Detective

(Continued on Page 4-A, Col. 1)

Warm Weather And Possible Showers Due

Weather just a trifle warmer than average for this time of year is probable again for today and tomorrow, the Weather Bureau says.

A high today in the middle 80's and a low tonight in the upper 70's appear likely, the bureau predicted. Similar temperatures are expected for tomorrow. High yesterday was 86 and the low was 70. Bureau records show an average high of 79 for past April 23's and an average low of 60.

There are chances for scattered showers in the afternoon both today and tomorrow.

Rites Set Today For LSU Dean Of Agriculture

Funeral services will be held this afternoon for Dean Jordan G. Lee Jr., head of LSU's College of Agriculture for the past 25 years, who died early yesterday morning at the Baton Rouge General Hospital.

The body is at Rabenhorst Funeral Home where services will be conducted by the Rev. Philip Werlein at 3:30 p.m., Burial will follow in Greenoaks Memorial Park.

DEAN J. G. LEE JR.

Dean Lee, who had been in ill health for several months, was 70 years old. He was to retire from the University faculty June 30. His retirement was approved earlier this year by the LSU Board of Supervisors and he was to receive the title "dean emeritus." He was to have been honored next Wednesday night at a banquet here.

Born near Farmerville in Union Parish Oct. 29, 1885, Lee was the son of H. M. and Emma O. Lee. He was named for his uncle Major Jordan Gray Lee who for many years was head of the LSU Forestry Department. In addition to being named for his uncle, Dean Lee also received the nickname "Major."

Dean Lee received his bachelor's degree from LSU in 1906, took his master's at LSU and later did post-graduate work at Iowa State College and the University of Missouri.

His career as a college professor began at Southwestern Louisiana Institute at Lafayette in 1909. He organized the agricultural department there, and in 1919 returned to LSU, as professor of vocational agriculture.

His work in the field was so outstanding that in 1931 he was appointed dean of the College of Agriculture—the post which he held

(Continued on Page 8-A, Col. 8)