

# TODAY

## Family Focus

His students are put through a simulated old-age experience designed to make them more sensitive to the unique problems faced by some of the 22 million Americans 65 or older. Page 14.

There's a sales boom in jump ropes going on, but if you look around, you don't see that many more children jumping rope. There's a reason. Page 15.

Taking the outdoors indoors is a booming business and the prices are being driven higher. Page 14.

## In Cedar Rapids

Rural Linn county residents won't be able to use the Cedar Rapids public library as of July 1, because of a money dispute between the county and library officials. Page 5.

The largest product introduction program and the first international meeting in the company's 93-year history is planned next week in Cedar Rapids by Harnischfeger Corp., and is expected to draw 600 corporate officials from 46 countries and the United States to Cedar Rapids. Page 5.

The legality of the newly formed position at the Cedar Rapids police department has been formally questioned by Mayor Don Canney. Page 7.

If you think writing a book is hard, you should try promoting it, says Dora Jane Hamblin, former Gazette reporter, and former associate editor of Life Magazine, who was in Cedar Rapids this week pushing her latest book, "That Was the Life". Page 4.

## In Iowa

The water crisis continues and 26 Iowa communities are seeking federal assistance under an emergency program for towns under 10,000 population with drought problems. Page 12.

Is the state revenue department trying to raise new taxes by rule instead of law? Page 13.

## On the Farm

Will it ever end? Now we have computerized corn growing right here in Linn county. Page 20.

An overhaul of federal meat and poultry inspection is being recommended and the agriculture department plans to air the recommendations with consumers before accepting or rejecting. Page 20.

## In the World

Two unresolved events in Uganda which only last week dominated world headlines, have been overshadowed by the latest Idi Amin mystery. Page 25.

## In Sports

After one day and one win, Eddie Stanky, the new manager of the Texas Rangers, got homesick for Mobile, Alabama, and quit his new job. Page 23.

## PARTLY CLOUDY



## Weather

Partly cloudy tonight and Friday with a chance of occasional thundershowers. Low tonight in the low to mid 60s. Highs Friday in the mid 80s.

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## Today's Chuckle

Tax loopholes are like parking spaces. By the time you get there, they've disappeared.

# Legislators: UNI Contract Illegal

## Can Now Proceed with Bill

By Roger Munns  
Cedar Rapids Gazette Staff Writer

DES MOINES — Legislative leaders of both parties have unanimously decided to refuse to consider a voluntarily approved contract between the state board of regents and the faculty at the University of Northern Iowa.

"Their contract is illegal so it is our position they do not have a contract," was the way State Sen. Earl Willis (D-Des Moines) bluntly put it.

The contract has a clause calling for negotiations to re-open next year to determine the following year's provisions.

State law says such contracts must be on a two-year basis and it is

on that point that lawmakers said Thursday the UNI pact was void.

The decision, while it raises a host of questions on the legislature's role in collective bargaining, apparently removes the chief stumbling block for approval of a state employee pay-fringe package by the end of the week.

There were other developments Thursday:

• The budget committees of both chambers began meeting to draw up a bill that will hopefully be ready for debate Friday, according to Senate Majority Leader George Kinley (D-Des Moines). Early Thursday afternoon, the committee was moving with greater dispatch than expected, and hopes were raised the entire is-

sue could be ready for future debate later in the day.

• Several leaders said if the bill-drafting process becomes bogged down Thursday, lawmakers will be sent home and reconvened sometime next week.

• The possibility of a Saturday session was raised by House Speaker Dale Cochran (D-Eagle Grove) if it is needed to allow adjournment of the special session this week.

Lawmakers not involved in the leadership decision-making process, much of it behind closed doors, showed their irritation Wednesday night, blasting leaders for being "inconsiderate."

In return, Democratic leaders criticized Republican Gov. Robert

## Faculty Losses Feared

By Frank Nye  
Cedar Rapids Gazette Staff Writer

DES MOINES — Iowa's two major state universities will be put in an even less competitive position to hold and attract top quality faculty members if the legislature doesn't increase Gov. Robert Ray's proposed 6.4 percent pay hike.

That's what members of the Iowa senate budget committee were told Wednesday afternoon as legislators continued to wrestle in special session over contents of the governor's bill proposing in 1977-79 salary and fringe benefits for some 40,000 state employees.

Associate Prof. Eleanor M. Birch of the University of Iowa told the lawmakers that school is "top quali-

ty now and we want to keep it that way."

But it presently ranks eighth among Big Ten schools in faculty salaries and "last, dead last" with its pension plan, she added.

Prof. Birch, chairman of the UI faculty senate and of the UI department of business administration, was one of seven UI and Iowa State university representatives appearing before the committee at the invitation of Sen. Minnette Doderer (D-Iowa City).

Committee members heard much the same story that some of the representatives told several other senators at an informal meeting prior to the budget committee session.

Doderer issued the invitation at-

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# The Cedar Rapids Gazette

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CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA • THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1977

CITY  
FINAL  
15 CENTS

## Foreign Aid Amendments 'Demagogic'

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Speaker Thomas O'Neill Thursday denounced as "demagogic" amendments being added to a foreign aid bill that limit U.S. contributions to international loan agencies.

"It's hard to vote against demagogic legislation and that's what this is," O'Neill told reporters as the house moved into the second day of work on the controversial aid bill.

"The President is disappointed with the hand-tying amendments the Republicans have offered," said O'Neill. Reminded that the minority Republicans needed Democratic votes to pass the amendments, O'Neill said, "On the surface they have public appeal."

"It's always easy to go home and say you voted against Vietnam, or Communist Cuba, or Idi Amin or to break ties with Argentina. But all you're doing is thwarting chances for the President for making more firm prospects of peace in the world," said O'Neill.

### Ban Viet Aid

Before voting to restrict U.S. representatives to international agencies in dealing with Communist countries, the house Wednesday approved an amendment that banned any reparations for Vietnam.

Brushing aside charges they were hasty and guilty of less than honorable consideration, the members voted 359 to 33 Wednesday in favor of an amendment by Rep. Lester Wolff (D-N.Y.) to renounce the offer made to Hanoi's leaders while the war was still raging.

Rep. Theodore Weiss, a Hungarian-born freshman Democrat from New York, took sharp exception to the vote, which followed little more than five minutes of debate.

Weiss, who claimed the United States owes reparations for the destruction it wrought in Vietnam, said America was "slopping off an obli-

Please Turn to Page 3.



The largest of several blasts in the Akron, Ohio, sewage system did heavy damage to the road leading through Glendale cemetery. The office at left received damage to the porch and windows.

## Sewer Blasts Shake Akron

AKRON, Ohio (UPI) — A series of explosions, apparently triggered by 3,000 gallons of a highly volatile liquid dumped by vandals at a strike-bound rubber plant, roared through part of the city's sewer system Thursday. The explosions blew up streets and broke open crypts at a cemetery.

There were no immediate reports of injuries, although a section of the west side of this northern Ohio city of 272,000, which is part commercial and part residential, was evacuated as a precautionary measure, said police dispatcher Sgt. Hugh Bennett.

It. Robert Lord of the Akron fire department said the liquid — naphtha — was traced to the Patch Rubber Co., where employees are on strike. "The owner called us this morning and said three thousand gallons of naphtha, which is highly volatile, had been dumped by vandals," said Lord. "They tied off the valves and it went into the city sewer system."

"Anything could have touched it off, a spark, a cigaret, anything," said Lord.

### 80-Foot Crater

"I saw a crater 80 to 90 feet across right after the explosion," said police Capt. David Whitmire. "The major thrust of the blast was in the area by Glendale cemetery."

"There are some crypts that have been broken open by the blasts and I would say that area of the city is the hardest hit," Whitmire said. "We didn't go all the way into the cemetery, but there definitely have been some things turned over by the blast."

Whitmire said the explosions also broke a large water main and a gas main in the area. He said the sewers were flushed with water to clean them out.

Another fire department spokesman said the explosions caused "major damage" to the streets, damaged a church and blew manhole covers into the air.

"Some of the streets looked like a bomb was dropped on them," said the spokesman. "We have some side-

walks that are three feet above street level.

"We were in the basement of city hall and we heard one of the explosions down there," he said. "Manhole covers are blown all over the place."

### Thought World Ending

One of those evacuated, Brindley Ferguson, 19, said the explosions "sounded like thunder."

"What I thought was that the world was coming to an end," she said.

There were three different por-

tions of the streets, three intersections that were blown up," said Bennett. "They (the explosions) made holes in the streets of considerable size. Manhole covers for miles around there were popped off."

"We had one cruiser sitting almost on top of one that blew and it blew them about a foot in the air," said Bennett.

"This occurred probably six blocks from the downtown area," he said. "It was close as it was, and if it had happened later it would have got even worse."

## Luzerne Murder Baffling

By Tom Alex  
Gazette Staff Writer

LUZERNE — Neighbors are baffled — and some say they're scared, following the slaying of a 71-year-old rural Luzerne resident late Tuesday or early Wednesday.

Charles Plucar was found dead at his home Wednesday morning by his nephew, Cecil Gilbert, and longtime friend, H. H. Dodd.

A Benton county sheriff's deputy

See photos on page 12.

said early Thursday afternoon. "We have some pretty good theories but I can't release any information on our investigation right now," he said. "We may have something for you tonight."

Plucar's hands had been tied behind his back with twisted cloth, officials said. Following an autopsy, medical authorities reported finding two small-caliber gunshot wounds in Plucar's head.

Initial reports indicated a shotgun had been used in the slaying; however, officials said Thursday that report was erroneous.

A neighbor who lives some two

miles east of the Plucar residence said Wednesday, "It will be hard on strangers around here for awhile. Some people may be answering the door with a gun."

Mrs. Elmer Eichen, Blainstown, Plucar's niece, said the elderly man lived alone in a house that was without electricity, telephone or running water.

She said Plucar had no enemies. "We have no idea who would have done this — no idea whatsoever. And nobody else has any idea either."

"He was a happy-go-lucky man. The best fence builder around. Everybody liked Charlie. He was a carpenter, farm hand. He did painting and odd jobs. Charlie led a simple life — he didn't like no commotion."

Another neighbor said, "When anyone wanted a farm hand, Charlie was one of the first ones we'd call. He was a hard worker."

Officials declined to comment on rumors that money may have been kept in the house but not said, saying robbery was the apparent motive. Friends said Plucar did not keep money in a desk.

Benton County Sheriff Ken P.

subjects in the slaying Wednesday. He could not be reached for comment Thursday morning. His offices were being aided by Iowa highway patrol troopers and Iowa Bureau of criminal investigation agents in the search for the killer.

Authorities left the scene during the afternoon hours Wednesday, asking neighbors if anyone heard or saw anything which might aid the investigation.

Dodd drove to the house some time before 10 a.m. Wednesday to take Plucar into town. He said when he knocked on the door no one answered. Then he noticed a door standing open on a shed at the rear of the house. Dodd said he knew Plucar wouldn't leave the door open, and upon further inspection said he found the shed had been tampered with.

He drove to Gilbert's home, picked up Gilbert and drove back to Plucar's house.

Gilbert said the slaying and reported slaying of a man named Plucar was the first slaying he had ever seen. He said he was not a law enforcement officer.

Please Turn to Page 4.

## DEATHS

**H.H. "Hum" Livingston**, 81, of 690 Ninth avenue and a Marion resident since 1920, died Wednesday in a Cedar Rapids hospital.

Born Nov. 3, 1895, at Cedar Falls, he was married to Laura Mae Morris Sept. 19, 1922, at Cedar Falls. Mr. Livingston served with the 34th division of the U.S. army during World War I. He had been employed as Marion manager of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. for 43 years, retiring in 1960.

Mr. Livingston was a member and former chairman of the board of trustees and treasurer of the Marion Christian church; past master of Marion Lodge No. 6 AF and AM; past commander of Marion Post No. 298, American Legion; a member and former chairman of the Marion park board; past president of the Marion Chamber of Commerce; a member of the Marion Evening Lions club and of the Telephone Pioneers.

He was appointed to finish a term on the park board in 1964 and was elected to that position in 1965 and 1971. As a member of the board, he served as chairman, vice-chairman and secretary. His present term would have expired this fall.

Surviving in addition to his wife are a brother, Aden B. Livingston, Cedar Falls; four sisters, Ruth Casey and Hazel Engel, both of Cedar Falls; Mrs. George Westlie, Dunkerton; and Mrs. Al Thiel, Red Oak.

Services: 2 p.m. Friday at the Christian church in Marion by the Rev. Thomas Anthony. Burial: Cedar Memorial cemetery with military graveside service by Marion Post No. 298, American Legion. Friends may call at the Murdoch chapel in Marion after 6 p.m. Thursday and from 9 to 11 a.m. Friday and after noon Friday at the church. A memorial fund has been established.

**Jane Morrissey Gavitt**, 34, of 1800 McGowan boulevard, Marion, wife of Louis W. (Bill) Gavitt and a resident of the Cedar Rapids and Marion area since 1966, died Wednesday in a local hospital following a short illness.

Born Aug. 23, 1942, at Winterset, she was married to Mr. Gavitt Oct. 15, 1971. Mrs. Gavitt had been employed by St. Luke's Methodist hospital for 11 years as head of the chemistry department. She interned at St. Joseph's hospital medical technology school in Chicago in 1964 and 1965 and was employed at St. Joseph's hospital from 1965 to 1966.

A graduate of Winterset high school in 1960, she was graduated from the University of Iowa in 1964. She was a member of Make Today Count, Birth Right, and St. Joseph's parish at Marion.

Surviving in addition to her husband is a son, Billy, and a daughter, Sarah, both at home; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B.E. (Pat) Morrissey, Winterset; a sister, Joan Morrissey, Fort Dodge; and two brothers, Ed Morrissey, Fort Dodge and Jim Morrissey, Guthrie Center.

Services: Saturday at St. Joseph's Catholic church in Winterset. Burial: City cemetery at Winterset. Prayer service will be held at Turner chapel east at 7 p.m. Friday by the Rev. David Pepper. Friends may call at Turner east until 9 p.m. Friday. The family suggests that friends may, if they wish, contribute to the American Cancer society.

**Christian Alan Petersen**, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin D. Petersen, 1280 Terrace street, Marion, died Thursday morning in a Cedar Rapids hospital. He was born in Cedar Rapids June 19, 1977.

Surviving in addition to his parents are a sister, Jennifer Lea Petersen, at home; maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kozlik of Van Horn, paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Petersen of Morrison; great-grandparents, Mrs. Helga Petersen of Reinbeck, Mrs. Mae Wilson of Mason City, and Mrs. Eleanor Christensen of Blairtown.

Graveside services: Friday at 1:30 p.m. at Cedar Memorial cemetery by the Rev. Max L. Hall of Faith United Methodist church. Friends may register at Turner chapel east. The casket will not be opened at any time.

**Richard L. Terpkosh**, 55, of route 2, Cedar Rapids, a lifelong resident of this area, died Wednesday in a Cedar Rapids hospital following a short illness.

Born July 8, 1922, in Cedar Rapids, he was married to Fenne Mather Sept. 1, 1956, in Iowa City. Mr. Terpkosh had been employed by Midland Forge, Inc., the last 23 years. He was a World War II veteran having served in the army.

Surviving in addition to his wife are four sisters, Mrs. John Melsa and Mrs. Joe Melichar, both of Cedar Rapids; Mrs. Amelia Youngblut, Lake Rathbun; and Mrs. Lenore Pohoda, Uvalde, Texas.

Services: 10 a.m. Saturday at the Brosh chapel by the Rev. George McDill. Burial: Czech National cemetery. Friends may call at the chapel after 1 p.m. Friday.

**Melvin Earl Jones**, 58, formerly of route 1, Cedar Rapids, and a longtime resident, died Thursday in a Long Beach, Calif., hospital.

Born Aug. 25, 1918, at Robins, he was employed by Penick and Ford, Ltd., for 20 years, prior to his retirement in 1976.

Surviving are his father, Benjamin, Cedar Rapids; two sons, Cleon E. Jones, La Mirada, Calif., and Edward James Jones, Cedar Rapids; one daughter, Mrs. Anthony Damon, Rockaway, N.J.; and four grandchildren.

Services: 1:30 p.m. Wednesday in Turner chapel east by the Rev. Lee Roy Collins of St. Mark's United Methodist church. Burial: Shiloh cemetery. Friends may call at Turner east after 4 p.m. Monday and until 1:15 p.m. Wednesday. The casket will not be opened after the service.

## Memorial Services

**Moel, Helen** — 2 p.m. Friday at Brosh chapel by the Rev. William Harnish. Burial: Oakland cemetery. Solon. Friends may call at the Brosh chapel.

**Johnston, William M.** — Services were held Thursday at the Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories by the Rev. Jay Miller of First Presbyterian church of Marion. Burial: Cedar Memorial Park cemetery. Arrangements by Cedar Memorial funeral home.

**Janssen, Herman "Jim"** — Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories by the Rev. Larry Johnson of the Open Door Counseling center. Memorial fund has been established. Arrangements by Cedar Memorial funeral home.

**Baker, Chester A.** — Friday at 1 p.m. at Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories by the Rev. Paul Health, district superintendent of the United Methodist church. Burial: Cedar Memorial Park cemetery. Masonic services at graveside by Mizpah lodge No. 639. All master masons are asked to meet at the gravesite at 1:15 p.m. Arrangements by Cedar Memorial funeral home.

## Iowa Deaths

**Manchester** — Bernice Pettion, 78. Services Saturday at 10:30 a.m., Bohnenkamp's.

**Manchester** — Maude Ring, 91. Services Saturday at 3 p.m., United Methodist church. Bohnenkamp's, where friends may call after 2 p.m. Friday.

**Iowa City** — Melbie Reiland, 83. Friday at 1, Donohue's, where friends may call.

**Luzerne** — Charles A. Plucar, 74. Saturday at 1:30, T.W. Van Beck's, Blairtown, where a prayer service will be held Friday at 8. Casket will be closed.

**Belle Plaine** — Harold G. Kelly, 73. Friday at 11, St. Michael's Catholic church. Rosary Thursday at 7, T.W. Van Beck's.

**Wyoming** — Harold Hodgden, 64. Friday at 1:30, Wyoming Methodist church. Hayden's.

**Randall** — Vernon Hanchett, 77. Friday at 2, Randall Methodist church. Masonic service Thursday at 7:30, Burnham-Wood. Burial: Grandview cemetery, Fayette.

**Arlington** — Archie Brooks, 84. Saturday at 1:30, United Methodist church. Gleim's, where friends may call Friday after 1:30.

**Lowden** — Ada Eiselstein, 67. Saturday at 1:30, Oxford Junction Methodist church. Chapman's, Clarence, where friends may call Friday from 3 until 9.

**Decorah** — Ada Sibart, 81. Saturday at 2, Steime's. Burial: Bluffton cemetery.

## Continued from Page 1

## —Iowa Pay Bill—

Ray for not releasing, prior to this week, information needed to come up with a bill granting state employee benefits that reflect the first year of collective bargaining for such persons.

The joint leadership team also came up with several other decisions, in addition to the UNI matter. According to Cochran, some of the decisions are unwaiverable, while others are "recommendations" for the budget committees to work out.

The UNI affair has been a source of constant bickering ever since the regents and the faculty, apparently under pressure from the governor's office, came down with an agreement just hours before Ray was to deliver his recommendations to the legislature Tuesday.

The pact calls for the faculty to receive average wage increases of 6.4 percent, the same figure Ray recommended for comparable non-organized faculty and scientific personnel at the other two regents universities.

In a budget committee meeting Wednesday, Gene Vernon, the governor's representative in collective bargaining talks, said he was unhappy about the UNI-regents contract because it called for the re-opener clause.

He recommended sending the contract back to the parties with instructions to come up with a two-year agreement, as called for in state law.

Later, however, R. Wayne Richey, executive director of the regents, said the agreement would never have been consummated without the re-opener clause. He said the regents and the faculty considered the pact a two-year affair and within state law.

Richey was not immediately available for comment Thursday.

Cochran said the leadership decided there was "no contract in the eyes of the Iowa Code."

Early Thursday, the joint budget committee considered language saying the UNI faculty, in effect, is an organized group with no contract. A

proposed amendment would give the regents a certain dollar amount for UNI benefits, equal to the average 6.4 percent benefit for comparable personnel at the other universities.

The parties would then be told to continue negotiations with that dollar limitation.

At stake is what precedent would the general assembly be setting if it refused to recognize a contract? Also, some will not doubt ask if collective bargaining is compromised when the negotiations are limited to a certain dollar amount.

There were several other decisions which have kept the first special session since 1964 at a virtual standstill:

• The legislature will not agree with Ray's proposal to "sweeten" health insurance benefits under the contracts reached by a security unit. Ray's proposal was designed to make the health insurance benefits as uniform as possible.

"Our position is not to alter a contract," Cochran said, "even if it means the people in this unit will get slightly less benefits than other employees."

• Adapt most of Ray's suggestions for sick leave, including the reduction of the number of sick leave days one may accumulate per year from the current 30 to the proposed 18.

Also, the leaders agreed they would lift the current 90-day maximum accumulation.

Concerning the rest of Ray's ideas on how to "bank" the sick leave time and how to make its benefits available at retirement, the leaders decided to call for actuarial studies, Cochran said.

• Concerning the amount of pay increases for unorganized faculty and scientific employees at the University of Iowa and Iowa State university, the leaders agreed to be "flexible."

There have been several complaints from the university community that Ray's suggested average 6.4-percent pay hike would put the professional employees at a disadvantage.

## — Foreign Aid —

tion entered into by the President and (was) assuming we have honorably dealt with the issue.

## Hearings Urged

Weiss urged the house to hold full hearings on the issue.

The vote against the reparations followed a clear rebuff from the house for President Carter's efforts to reach normal relations with Vietnam.

At the start of the day-long debate on the \$7 billion foreign aid bill, Carter urged the house in a letter to

Speaker Thomas O'Neill to adapt no amendments which would limit the ability of international banks to extend loans to the communist government in Hanoi.

But the house, voting 295 to 113, adopted an amendment by Rep. C.W. Young (R-Fla.) barring U.S. funds from going "directly or indirectly" to Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos or Uganda.

The administration has sought a free hand in its approach to the Vietnamese and considers restrictions on bank loans to be extremely damaging.

## — Murder —

Gilbert and Dodd drove to Gilbert's house. Gilbert tried to call the Benton county sheriff's office but the line was busy. He called the Cedar Rapids base highway patrol office. Officers there said they would send a trooper and contact Benton county authorities.

Officials investigating the murder said the house also had been ransacked.

There was some speculation that whoever killed Plucar was recognized by the victim. Maybe that was the reason the intruder bound the victim's hands. That possibly it was someone who had learned that Plucar kept money at his home (although that hasn't been verified).

Some of the neighbors said it could have been someone who lived in the area, "because an outsider probably wouldn't have picked that house to break into." They said one could tell from the road it wasn't a house of affluence.

But because locals can't think of anyone in the area who would want to hurt Plucar, speculation is, the murderer could be a stranger.

The victim was last seen alive at 2 p.m. Tuesday sitting in a lawn chair, according to Popenhagen.

## — Prison —

prisoner's limited rights to freedom of speech and freedom of association.

First Amendment rights "must give way by the reasonable considerations of penal management," Reimspies said as the court reversed a decision reached by a three-judge federal court in North Carolina last year.

That court said prison officials had to treat unions the same way they treated organizations such as the Jaycees or Boy Scouts, which are allowed to hold meetings and solicit prospective members.

In other decisions Thursday, the court:

• By a 7-2 vote further restricted the availability of federal courts to state convicts who claim constitutional flaws in their trials.

• Upheld 7-2 a Washington state court's decision of 45 percent of the natural, oil-based rent to the Payalup Indians in the lower portion of the Payalup river at Tacoma.

30 YEARS AGO — The Foreign Ministers of Russia, Britain and France met in Paris to discuss the Munich plan.

## Cheap Way To Become Lawyer

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP) — Abraham Lincoln, in 1858, recommended reading law as "the cheapest, quickest and best way" to become a lawyer.

The practice — no apprenticeship in a lawyer's office — is far from common today. But it continues in a handful of states despite opposition from the big lawyers' groups.

Virginia, California, Washington, Mississippi and Vermont allow an aspiring lawyer to get all or part of his or her legal education by reading law. California, Washington and Vermont require four years' apprenticeship. Virginia three years and Mississippi two.

There's some indication the popularity of reading law — thanks in part to rising costs and crowded law schools — is on the upswing. The number of law readers in Virginia, in fact, has more than doubled in the last five years.

"Reading law allows you to see if you like law and lawyers," says Kitty Mosely, 29, who's reading law with a Charlottesville firm. "I was in the 4th circuit (U.S. court of appeals in Richmond) the other day, and it was so much more exciting than law school — listening to lawyers actually talk about real cases."

To read law in Virginia, the aspiring attorney needs three years of college and a willing lawyer with a "good reputation," an adequate law library and at least two years' general practice.

Some firms pay their readers, though Mosely gets no salary. Her firm figures she's getting an education in return for paralegal work.

The firm keeps her busy. In three years she'll interview clients, help prepare pleadings, participate in

trials, check facts and take part in conferences with judges and other lawyers.

All of which sounds like just what student lawyers should be doing. Why, then, are the lawyers' associations opposed to the practice?

"To be a good lawyer today you've got to have a general knowledge of the full spectrum of the law, and then develop a specialty," says James Spruill, president of the Virginia state bar. Spruill insists only law school can provide such an overview.

"Also," he says, "it's difficult to supervise what's happening when someone is reading law in an office."

## Not Enough Parking, Kopecky Complains

Linn county Attorney Eugene Kopecky complained to Linn supervisors this week that his office employees were not allotted enough parking spaces in the proposed parking plan for the lot behind the courthouse.

The plan, effective July 18, allotted eight spaces to the county attorney's office. Kopecky claimed his office was not given credit for the 15 assistant county attorneys in his office who, he said, should have the same status as deputies automatically given spaces in other departments.

"It seems like everybody got about half the number of spaces as employees in their department, but we got shortchanged," Kopecky said.

All lawyers don't feel that way. F. Guthrie Gordon III, an attorney in Charlottesville, says the bar exam weeds out the unfit, and it's up to the reader to make sure the firm he or she joins will give the time and assistance necessary to learn the law and pass the bar.

Virginia has only about 80 law readers and, based on recent experience, slightly less than half will pass the state bar exam, compared to 83 percent of law school grads.

Even after the reader passes the bar exam, attorneys say, many of the big, prestigious firms aren't eager to hire anyone without a formal legal schooling.

There are 22 employees in the county attorney's office.

According to Kopecky's own figures 15 of the 22 are assistant county attorneys, but four of the 15 work in the First avenue office.

Supervisor spokesmen note also that Kopecky did not claim any parking spaces for deputies or assistants on the survey which was taken before the spaces were allotted.

ON THIS DATE in 1845, the Congress of Texas agreed to the territory's annexation by the United States.

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## Luzerne Murder Scene

State Bureau of Criminal Investigation Agent Darwin Chapman removes evidence from a pillow taken from the home of Charles Plucar, 74, Luzerne, who was found shot to death Wednesday. Benton County Sheriff Kenneth Popenhagen, left front, assists other officers in removing Plucar's body from the house, located two miles west of Hannen lake. The investigation into the murder is continuing. See story, page 1.



## Flood Work Turndown Hit

IOWA CITY — Two Johnson county supervisors Wednesday lashed out at the U.S. army corps of engineers after learning it is unlikely there will be federal help in solving flooding problems on roads north of the Coralville reservoir.

Johnson County Engineer O. J. Gode told supervisors that the corps had turned down two long-range proposals for projects north of the reservoir.

The 15-month contract, retroactive to April 1, will provide pay raises of \$30 per employee every three months. The first raise will be July 1. The starting pay for ambulance employees will go from \$7,200 a year to \$8,160 by April of 1978.

Ironically, one rejected plan was developed by the corps' staff in Rock Island. The corps would have regraded three and a half miles of county road E west of highway 218 to bring the road above flood level and constructed a new bridge and culverts at that location.

The contract signing came shortly before arbitration proceedings were expected.

## 26 Towns Seek Water Funds

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Some 26 Iowa communities have applied for federal assistance under the emergency loan-grant program for towns under 10,000 population with drought-water related problems, a U.S. department of agriculture (USDA) spokesman said Wednesday.

After the hearing, Clark said, "this whole episode is a prime illustration for the need of congress to keep track of what happens to legislation after it is passed."

Most of the communities involved are from western Iowa.

Supervisor Chairman Lorada Cilek snapped, "They're impossible to work with." Supervisor Donald Sehr commented, "For years they've been promising to do something about this area. They even turned down their own plan. It's a sad situation when they won't help seeing they caused the flood problems themselves."

IOWA CITY — Iowa City residents should change their driving habits regarding Muscatine avenue in Iowa City.

A \$628,000 widening and repaving project of Muscatine avenue between First avenue and South boulevard started Thursday. Motorists were advised to use Rochester avenue or highway 6 until the project is completed sometime in November.

The Iowa applications amount to \$10.3 million in loans and \$4 million in grants, the USDA official told a senate rural development subcommittee presided over by Sen. Dick Clark (D-Iowa).

In questioning the USDA witnesses, Clark repeatedly stressed the need for quick action so that the program can bring the relief intended.

Under questioning, witnesses testified that most applications for drought assistance should be made at the local and state level. They added that the majority of these applications could be approved at state level.

Gode said he was informed of the decision, made by corps officials in Washington, through a letter from the Rock Island district.

Until then parking on Wayne avenue, which can also be used as a detour, will be prohibited.

The session was intended to determine the effectiveness of the emergency drought program, and Assistant Agriculture Secretary Alex Mercure said he felt the USDA had "dropped the ball" in its handling of the \$225 million emergency drought program for small communities.

The program, an extension of the Farmer's Home Administration's regular sewer and water program, was funded by congress this spring and went into effect May 6.

Apparently in some instances applications have been made at the state level and have been held there for forwarding to Washington, Clark said.

The county had been negotiating with the corps over these improvements since 1970. The county experienced major flooding in 1974.

TAMA — The South Tama school board has accepted the low base bid of \$10,600 from Brite-Way Electric, Marshalltown, for lighting the tennis courts at the senior high school.

"We probably have not responded as adequately as we would like," Mercure said.

Witnesses testified that the information concerning the program was disseminated in 3 million brochures sent to farmers and ranchers and also distributed at a recent national meeting of mayors in Tucson, Ariz.

The drought relief aid is just one aspect of the entire spectrum of rural development programs which Clark's subcommittee is now examining.

In other business, the supervisors unanimously approved a contract with the county ambulance employees.

Clark said the committee surveyed nearly 70 towns in Iowa that are experiencing water problems, and found the vast majority of local officials had not heard of the program.

Clark questioned whether the mayors of many of these communities needing help would get the word through such a route. He pointed

Clark told the witnesses he would recall them in about three months for a progress report.

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## Fisher Guilty Of Perjury

MANCHESTER — Dennis Fisher, 31, Anamosa, was found guilty of perjury Wednesday by a Delaware county district court jury here.

No sentencing date was set for Fisher, who was found guilty of lying about the January, 1975, death of Howard Miller, Masonville, during a pre-sentence hearing.

At the March hearing he claimed he was drunk at the time of the Miller killing, and his account of the shooting incident originated with Myra Miller, the dead man's wife.

Fisher was then charged with perjury by Delaware County Attorney Michael Carr for the contradiction in testimony.

Fisher last year was convicted of murder in connection with Miller's death. However, the Iowa supreme court overturned the conviction and a second trial was set for Clayton county district court, in Elkader, in September.

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