

SENATE

Thurs. Dec. 11 - 79.

Excitement on Capitol Hill. In a final burst of fireworks the Senate approving at last today a massive ~~xxx~~ tax bill; <sup>a bill that</sup> as it stands now ~~a bill that~~ touches the purse strings of practically every American tax payer. In so doing, the Senate brushing aside the threat of a Presidential veto <sup>and</sup> <sub>^</sub> also a last ditch Republican plea for ~~xxx~~ economy. Leaving it up to a joint conference committee - to adjudicate the differences between this bill and <sup>one</sup> ~~one~~ <sub>^</sub> already passed <sup>by the</sup> <sub>^</sub> House. ~~that~~

One man who will not serve on that panel though - Senator Williams of Delaware. The so-called watch-dog of the Senate abdicating from the conference committee - as soon as the votes were all counted. In a move that shocked his colleagues <sup>said</sup> <sub>^</sub> Senator Williams: ~~asserting~~ "I cannot in good conscience serve as a conferee on a bill which I feel is so radically wrong."

PARIS

Today's session of peace talks in Paris

-- something of an exercise in diplomatic "one-up-man-ship."

In the absence of Henry Cabot Lodge and his chief deputy third stringer Philip Habib taking over for the U S; With the result that Hanoi's Xuan Thuy boycotted the parley ~~xxx~~ saying he simply "did not feel like attending." Whereupon South Vietnam's Tham Dang Lam came down with an ~~xxx~~ ailment diagnosed as "diplomatic influenza" and ~~he~~ also stayed away. Leaving Madame Nguyen Thi Binh of the Viet Cong - the lone holdover from last week. - ~~at the top of the ticket, at least~~

If the faces were different though - not so the dialogue. The Communists again accusing President Nixon of sabotaging the talks - this by failing to name a successor to Cabot Lodge; ~~Cabot~~ <sup>who</sup> for his part, <sup>was</sup> saying that

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*he was fully "able to discuss any serious matters -  
that the other side wishes to raise." But, "frankly" -  
said he - "we do not consider your demands for  
unilateral action - to be a serious effort at negotiation."  
And so it goes at Paris.*

VIETNAM FOLLOW PARIS

~~And~~ ~~Meanwhile~~ the war ~~continues~~ goes on - and on. Ground action reported today - including the first full scale artillery duel between South Vietnamese and North Vietnamese troops; ~~this~~ an exchange of shells - across the Cambodian border; ~~Thirty~~ thirty minutes of rapid fire combat - ~~was~~ that was finally ended when the enemy guns fell silent. Through it all, U S forces keeping "hands off" - in line with the current Vietnamization of the war.

Back in Saigon - South Vietnamese President Thieu ~~front and center~~ ~~was saying~~ ~~Asserting~~ that the imposition of a coalition government on South Vietnam - would lead to a Communist take-over inside of six months. At the same time - a South Vietnamese Senate Committee said today - it "strongly protests that <sup>(Me Lie)</sup> My Lai massacre." "But we also protest" said the committee "those who inflate the truth for political purposes."



WHITE HOUSE

*At* The White House - a visit today from L B J.

Former President Johnson returning to the Executive Mansion for the first time since leaving office. *There* Discussing foreign policy with President Nixon at a two hour breakfast meeting.

When it was all over - the former President passing up an opportunity to talk with reporters. Somewhat greyer - a little heavier - he also balked at "pressing the flesh" as he used to put it. *Today merely* Shaking hands with *— and then* just a few on-lookers -- *only* at the specific urging of Mr. Nixon. And then, he was gone again. - *a* page from the past.

EDGARTOWN

The start of the <sup>2</sup>~~the~~ long awaited inquest ~~is~~ into  
the death of Mary Jo Kopechne <sup>is</sup>~~is~~ now set for January  
five. So announced today - at ~~the~~ Edgartown, Mass.

Judge James Boyle - who will preside - further specified  
that the hearing shall be closed to press and public.

This - as you know - in keeping with an earlier ruling  
from the Massachusetts Supreme Court; a ruling at the  
request of several who will testify - among them,

Senator ~~Who~~ Edward Kennedy in whose car Miss Kopechne  
died.

CHICAGO

From the University of Chicago - the story today of a "journey to the center of the earth". A journey - only simulated, ~~of course~~ <sup>but that</sup> nevertheless ~~could~~ <sup>be a</sup> ~~a potential~~ boon to mankind; ~~with a team~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>team</sup> researchers attempting to duplicate in surface laboratories -- the ~~same~~ conditions that exist deep within the earth. Hoping in this way - to discover a whole new series of "phase changes." Phase changes meaning the changes that occur in certain minerals - under the ~~effects~~ of great heat and or great pressure; as, for example, that which turns graphite - into diamonds.

Doctor Paul ~~G.~~ Moore, ~~the man~~ in charge of all this, ~~setting~~ <sup>says</sup> as his eventual goal - a determination of the atomic structure of more than five thousand known minerals. Doctor Moore ~~asserting~~ <sup>says</sup> that possibly - just possibly - this research might suddenly yield Warren. "a super mineral", ~~a mineral that will have great~~ application in industry and research.

LONDON

Again appropos of the season - the results of a recent British marketing survey were published today in London. The survey concerning itself with young Britons - male and female coming to the conclusion that nearly three out of every four British girls plan to buy their boy friends Christmas presents this year; as compared with a figure of only fifty percent - for the number of males who plan to reciprocate.

Conclusion - says the survey: About four hundred thousand young British girls are going to be awfully, awfully disappointed, come Christmas; unless they bear in mind - "tis more blessed to give than receive."



GREECE

Fri. Dec. 12-69.

The government of Greece resigned from the eighteen nation council-of-Europe today even as the council threatened to suspend it from membership. However, Greek officials say the ~~public-consult~~ withdrawal will have no effect on Greece's participation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or NATO.