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SUN CHASES FOG

Pea-soup fog at dawn today, the cause of several traffic accidents in the Paris area, cleared away by early morning as the sun burned off the moisture for another warm spring day. The daytime temperatures are holding constant with a high of 71 Monday and 70 recorded at noon today, following an overnight low of 49.

Retailers Deny Meat 'Killing'

By BERNARD BRENNER
WASHINGTON (UPI)—A food chain spokesman today denied that retailers have profiteered at the expense of farmers and consumers by widening their meat profits.

Retail meat prices already have dropped and should be "very favorable" for consumers through July, said Clarence G. Adams, president of the National Association of Food Chains. He was called to tell the retailers' side of the meat price story today at a House subcommittee investigation of beef prices.

Some farm spokesmen at the opening session of the inquiry Monday said retail prices — which turned down in many stores about April 1 — earlier had been boosted by more than was needed to keep pace with last winter's increase in cattle prices.

Adams told UPI that when all figures are posted, the average gain in 1972 food prices compared to 1971 levels will be smaller than the gain in all consumer items, and smaller than last year's 2.7 per cent gain in food prices.

The Agriculture Department has predicted that 1972 retail food prices (excluding restaurant tabs) will be up 4 per cent over last year.

"They can be wrong. They've made mistakes every year for the past seven years," Adams said.

Balmy Day For Nation

The cherry blossoms were flourishing today in the nation's capital, setting the tone of balmy spring weather that prevailed over most of the country.

A spokesman for the National Park Service said the cherry blossoms should be in full bloom in a few days—a week late for the visitors who attended last week's Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington.

Summer was expected to arrive in full force in the arid lowlands of the Southwest as the National Weather Service

predicted that the mercury would climb to the century mark.

Scattered showers or thunder-showers were reported from the Ohio River to the middle Pacific Coast and into the Pacific Northwest, but rain was generally light.

Freezing temperatures were confined to the higher mountain elevations and to areas close to the Canadian border. Elsewhere, fair, dry weather was the rule.

Early morning temperatures ranged from 20 at Houlton, Maine, to 79 at Yuma, Ariz.

Paris Youth Drowned At Georgetown

A six-year-old Crestwood special education student drowned early Monday afternoon while on a field trip outing at the Forest Glenn Preserve park east of Georgetown in Vermillion County.

Victim of the tragedy was Richard Lee Gordon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Gordon of R.R. 5, Paris, and a first-year student in the Crestwood class for the educable mentally handicapped.

Students from the Memorial and Crestwood EMH classes were at Forest Glenn for a field trip on conservation, and were eating lunch in the park shelter when the youngster apparently slipped away unnoticed and wandered to a farm pond a distance away. Park officials believe he may have started to wade at the edge of the pond, which was filled by recent rains to a depth of about five feet, and either slipped or walked out too far from the edge.

The students were accompanied by three teachers, a teach-

ers' aide and the bus driver, with the Forest Glenn park staff also providing supervision. The child's disappearance was discovered during the lunch hour and a search of the nearby woods started. His coat and a partly-eaten apple were later found at the edge of the pond, resulting in a search of the muddy water. The body was recovered about 2 p.m.

Richard Lee Gordon, son of Dale F. and Mary Stogsdill Gordon of R.R. 5, Paris, was born in Paris June 24, 1965, and is survived by his parents, three sisters, Pamela, Paula and Denise, and two brothers, Dale Eugene and Joe, all at home; and the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Dale E. Gordon of Paris and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Stogsdill of Bell Gardens, Calif.

Funeral services will be conducted at 10 a.m. Thursday at the Blume-Stewart-Carroll Funeral Home with Rev. John C. Faust officiating. Burial will be in Edgar Cemetery. Friends may call Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

6-Car, Foggy On Rt. 150 In

Three Zenith employees from Clinton, Ind., were hospitalized this morning following a six-car accident on fog-blanketed Route 150 east of Paris at the Penn Central overpass. All of the injured were reported in good condition this afternoon.

The six-car accident at about 6:20 a.m. was one of three about the same time blamed on the pea-soup fog that settled on the area at dawn. There were no injuries reported in the other two accidents, one of which happened a short distance away on Route 150 as cars braked to avoid the first pileup. The other was reported on Route 36 near the Indiana state line.

Hospitalized from the six-car pileup were Mrs. Olive L. Dugger, 59, of R. R. 2, Clinton, the driver of a westbound car on Route 150; and two of the four passengers in her car, Pauline Rippey, 58, of R. R. 2, Clinton; and Ella Young, 58, of R. R. 2, Clinton. Mrs. Dugger received a hand injury and bruises; and Mrs. Rippey facial lacerations.

Treated and released were two other passengers, Helen Pepek, 48, of Clinton, who received a scalp laceration; and Diane L. Stutz, 25, of R. R. 2, Clinton.

Visibility was practically zero when Leon L. Cassidy, 60, of R. R. 2, Paris—living just west of the overhead bridge—pulled onto the highway this morning heading into Paris. With Cassidy was his brother Robert Cassidy.

Cassidy was barely on the

highway when his car was struck from behind by the westbound car driven by Mrs. Dugger who was taking a car pool to work at the Paris Zenith plant.

According to state trooper Frank Barnhart who pieced together the accident report, the following events took place:

The Dugger and Cassidy vehicles skidded across the eastbound lane and ended up in a south roadside ditch and part on the highway. Another westbound car, driven by Steven Keishelmer, 19, also of Clinton, saw the accident, attempted stop, lost control and skidded to the Dugger car, then rebounded into the westbound traffic lane. A fourth westbound car, driven by Warren B. Bullock, 51, of West Terre Haute, struck the Keishelmer car.

At this point eastbound traffic approached and a small

Demos Lose Over Budget

By ROBERT KIECKHEFER
SPRINGFIELD (UPI) — "first political salvo" of 1972 legislative session was Gov. Richard B. Ogilvie's proposed \$7.456 billion budget. Democrats lost it.

It took only a matter of few hours Monday for the Illinois House to become embroiled in a partisan interchange, a question was which party's would be used to set up a commission to estimate state's financial condition.

The exchange began with Rep. Gerald Shea, D-River, the assistant Democratic leader presented his party's plan in the form of a resolution, it wanted the resolution passed immediately so the commission could begin work.

However, Rep. David J. Porter, R-Mount Prospect, pointed out he had already introduced a bill which would substantially the same thing Shea's resolution. That bill been referred to the Appropriations Committee, of which

Medical OK For Apollo

By CHARLES E. TAYLOR

CAPE KENNEDY (UPI)—Doctors gave Apollo 16's astronauts their final major medical examination today before launch to the moon Sunday and the countdown remained after a potential moonship problem was resolved.

The space agency reported that engineers removed a nitrogen tube from the Apollo 16 service module when there was an indication of a leak in a

Johnson Is

Back In War Zone