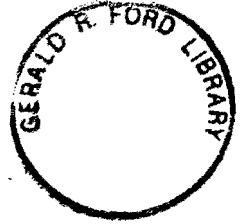


DIARY OF WHITE HOUSE LEADERSHIP  
MEETINGS -- 91st CONGRESS



July 21, 1970

Before the President could speak a word, Arends asked permission to raise a question concerning recent Jack Anderson columns which appear to quote verbatim words spoken in White House Leadership meetings. He said that it was obvious to him that either the room was bugged or that someone attending the meetings "is talking out of turn." If the problem cannot be solved, the meetings should be discontinued. RMN shares the concern, not because anything which has been quoted has been embarrassing, but primarily because such columns tend to discourage participants from speaking freely and frankly. He asked that each person concerned be on his honor in conversations he has with others following these meetings. Ford agreed with Arends. Smith inquired if it is possible the staff sometimes may make deliberate leaks to achieve a particular PR purpose. RMN said that one of the dangers is the policy of "debriefing" practiced by Cabinet members. In order to implement Presidential policy, they "debrief" their immediate subordinates, each of whom fans out and "debriefs" his subordinates until finally everyone down to the charwoman has been thoroughly "debriefed." To avoid this hazard, the President has decided that certain highly sensitive classified documents should not be discussed in open meetings, even of the National Security Council. He warned us not to assume that an inquiring reporter is a friend. He might be a personal friend, but like the law, journalism is a jealous mistress. Friendship notwithstanding, the reporter's job is to get the news.

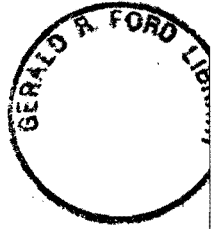
The economy was once again the central issue discussed. Shultz said that the "anti-inflation game plan" looks better and better. GNP leveled off in the second quarter. The Retail Price Index maintained relatively low rate increases. The Wholesale Price Index appears to be holding steady. BLS today will report the Food Price Index change for last month. It will be the lowest since December 1968.



RMN said that the expenditure increase in authorization and appropriation bills now moving through Congress, if unchecked, will surely require a tax increase in FY72 if the nation is to avoid another inflationary spiral. Shultz said that 2/3 of FY72 decisions are being made today. He pointed to the Education Appropriation bill, now on the President's desk, which is \$453 million over the budget, the HUD Appropriation bill which the Senate has increased \$1.87 billion over the budget, the Agriculture Appropriation bill which the Senate has increased \$728 million over the budget and the HEW-Labor Appropriation bill under debate on the floor of the House today which is \$93 million over the budget, but in addition the overspending limitation clause might force a spending increase of \$200 million over the budget. With such overspending a prospect, the deficit will be unmanageable, particularly if the President's increased revenue measures are not approved by the Congress. Shultz mentioned the acceleration of the gift tax, the postage increase and the lead-gas tax. These are absolutely essential if the Congress continues to "go wild" on spending increases. The VP inquired, "What is 'going wild' and what is 'encouraging proper economic growth?'" "What are the true guidelines?"

Shultz replied that the goal is \$205.6 billion, which is the spending limit Congress itself set on the executive.

RMN asked if it is feasible to ask Congress to put a ceiling on itself. Bow said that he would be glad to offer such an amendment to an upcoming resolution if someone downtown could draft it. Rhodes said that such a Congressional limitation is impossible because appropriations bills are considered seriatim, and it would be impossible to determine whether the ceiling had been pierced until the end of the session when all of the separate bills are added together. Bow had been considering the advisability of offering an amendment to the HEW-Labor bill or some other bill which would provide that notwithstanding the amount of appropriations, the spending could be no more than budget estimated unless and until



Congress has passed revenue bills requested by the Administration. The difficulty is that the bills requested have not been introduced. Ford explained that this is because the Ways and Means Committee has adopted the procedure of entertaining the executive legislative suggestions by inviting witnesses to explain the proposals, leaving to the Committee the business of drafting the legislation.

Morton said that the lead-gas bill is a bitter pill to swallow because it renews the old controversies associated with the oil industry.

Harlow suggested that there should be a "two-legged limit." One would provide that Congress may not make an appropriation in excess of the budget except upon a 2/3 vote in each House. The other would provide that new revenue sources proposed by the President to take care of increased spending would become law unless cancelled by a 2/3 vote of the Congress. (I was not quite clear about the second leg.)

Allott said that it has become crystal clear to him that liberal Democrats, joined by 12 liberal Republicans, have organized an effort to rewrite the budget on the floor of the Senate under the name of "reordering priorities." Young agreed and said that their purpose is to reduce the defense budget by \$5 billion.

Ford said that the President has 3 options with respect to the overspending bills -- to veto them, to sign them into law, or to allow them to become law without his signature. If the latter course is chosen, the President should announce that he does not intend to obligate or spend more than the budget, and if someone or some state cares to bring a law suit challenging his power, "let them do so." He expressed the hope that the President would not veto the education bill but that he would not sign it.

Griffin said that the Democratic strategy is becoming plain. They expect to increase every politically attractive bill and yet cut enough from other bills to be able to claim at the end of the session that they reduced the President's total budget.

Scott quoted a statement made by Young to the effect that with respect to the President's constitutional responsibility under mandatory spending clauses, the President needs another opinion from another lawyer. Rhodes said that the Democratic strategy is to leave the defense appropriation bill until last and then cut it deeply in the name of peace. Harlow asked if it would be well to hold a House Republican Conference to impress upon members the importance of getting 1 more than 1/3 to sustain Presidential vetoes as they come along. The VP suggested that the country should be told that major cuts in defense budget and space budget are principal causes of increased unemployment. Ford said that we need to tell the country also that Democrats are responsible for the huge cost-overruns in Defense Dept. contracts. We are paying the bills today on questionable contracts made by previous administrations. He also expressed the opinion that the House will sustain the veto of the Independent Office-HUD veto.

Griffin said that the veto of the Hill-Burton Act was a mistake, and that it was counterproductive. He urged that with respect to future vetoes, the Senators be warned, particularly if an authorization bill (as distinguished from an appropriation bill) is concerned.

Anderson agreed that we should not overpromise and underperform and thereby frustrate the peoples hopes, but we should be talking now about plans to do things on the domestic scene which need to be done as soon as the economy can be brought under control. He mentioned the doctor shortage as an example. RMN said that it was a good idea. Finch indicated that several ideas in this area are already being explored. Scott suggested that he might explore some possibility of reducing medical costs for people not covered by Medicare.



At this point, I left the room and when I returned, Wineberger was saying something about "no spending dividend from the conclusion of the Vietnam War." The President said that with commitments already made in legislation already passed, we have already spent the Vietnam peace dividend.

RMN recommended that campaigners use the words "Big Spenders" when referring to the Democrats. A big spender is a popular fellow when he picks up the check. He becomes unpopular when he can no longer pick up the check. The people are going to have to pick up the check for the Democratic big spending. The big spender today is the fellow who raises prices and taxes tomorrow. What the country needs in the new Congress is a man with courage to vote against programs which benefit a few people but raise prices and taxes of everybody else. A spending vote scoreboard on Members of the Senate is presently being put together. Undoubtedly, it will show that the 8 biggest spenders in the Senate are Democrats, all candidates for re-election this year.

Wilson said that a similar thing can be done in the House. Presently, he is cooperating with the Association of Businessmen in a program promoting Congressional candidates as "inflation fighters."

RMN said that he hopes the Leadership understands that the President must have a policy on vetoes. It cannot be a policy of vetoing only those bills on which it will be easy to sustain a veto. He must sometimes make the hard choices and ask Members of Congress to make the hard decisions. With respect to the 3 options available to him, most of the big spending overruns will be vetoed. In some special cases, he will withhold his signature and will say that he will either not spend the excess or that he will take the excess out of some other program. The economy has bottomed out and is



beginning to turn up. In that regard, the country is in the same posture as it was in 1968 when the economy had recovered from the '66-'67 recession and started up. The Democrats made the mistake of overspending and increasing the money supply too fast, both of which resulted in today's inflation. If we make the same mistakes, we will have another inflationary spiral in 1972. With respect to cuts in defense spending, RMN repeated what he has said often before. The real question at issue is whether the Administration and the Congress are content to see the U. S. become a second-place power. Russia is ahead in conventional weaponry (as it has been since World War II). Russia is ahead in ABM and missiles in general. Its MRV (although not independently targeted) creates an imbalance. It is possible for it to have as many as 5 warheads, each of which is 5 times as powerful as the warhead in our Minuteman. While the U. S. is ahead today in Polaris missiles, at the present rate of production, Russia will be ahead in 1974.

Scott gave the Senate report. The vote on the D. C. Crime Conference Report will come Thursday at 1:00 p. m. We have the votes. The Education Conference Report will be considered next week. The Military Procurement bill is "on deck." Senator Margaret Smith is making satisfactory recovery and is now walking about with crutches.

Ford gave the House report. The Conference Report on the Housing bill is on its way to the President. Today the House will debate the HEW-Labor Appropriation bill and hopes to defeat amendments which would increase spending to \$360 million over the budget. Hopefully, we can obtain 3 additional Republican votes in Committee to approve the farm bill which has come to be known as "Committee Print No. 7." The farm payment limitation is a continuing problem.

RMN explained his statement made on yesterday that he would veto the import quota bill approved by the Ways and



Means Committee. He said he first discussed the matter with Mills and Byrnes. This country exports more than it imports. This bill could cost as many jobs in the export industry as it would save in the import industry. There is, however, a special problem in the textile industry.

We adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

RICHARD H. POFF

JULY 21, 1970

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESS CONFERENCE  
OF  
SENATOR HUGH SCOTT  
AND  
CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD  
THE BRIEFING ROOM



AT 11:17 A.M. EDT.

MR. ZIEGLER: The leadership Meeting lasted for two hours and 15 minutes. Congressman Ford will begin the briefing this morning.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Thank you very much, Ron.

The major part of the meeting with the President this morning involved the development of a strategy to win against the big spenders in the Congress.

The feeling was that unless this battle is won against the big spenders in the Congress, we are inevitably, down the road, going to have the certainty of increased problems in inflation with people paying more through increased prices, or secondly, the possibility of the Congress being forced to do something about higher taxes.

The strategy is basically: One, in the House and in the Senate to try to impose a meaningful expenditure ceiling. The one the Congress has imposed is really one that has no impact whatsoever. The net effect of it is that the Congress is able to get away with a double standard. They put a ceiling on, on the one hand, and then almost daily violate that ceiling by increased appropriations or increased authorizations.

The second part of the strategy is to work closely with the President and the White House and the President will be faced, if this trend continues, of increased appropriations over his budget, with the possibility of either authorizations or appropriations that he will either have to veto or will have to let go through without his signature.

It is not a very happy prospect, but if we are going to win the battle against the big spenders in the Congress, there has to be this close coordination between the Republican leadership and our forces in the House and the Senate as well as an attempt to impose a meaningful ceiling or to face, down here, the problem of a veto in one or more areas.

MORE



SENATOR SCOTT: I think it is very interesting that this budget represents a definite balance of concern for human resources and in this budget the human resources allocation is 41 percent to 37 percent for defense.

I think it is the first time human resources have exceeded the defense appropriations since 1950. In 1968, the figures were 34 percent for human resources and 44 percent for defense and in 1962 it was 29 percent for human resources and 48 percent for defense.

Taking inflation into account, as some economists have pointed out, this Administration has cut the defense budget by about 20 percent. It would hardly stand very much more cutting, it would seem.

On another matter, if the Housing Bill had come out two or three years ago and had not been delayed in this Congress, we would now have been able to report some 200,000 to 250,000 housing starts.

Again, in another context, you will recall that the President mentioned with regard to the Cambodian matter that it would result in a reduction of casualties, and the casualty lists, since our exit from Cambodia, have been the lowest for any comparable period.

Q Did you gentlemen discuss the chances for the Family Assistance Program getting through?

SENATOR SCOTT: We did discuss the Family Assistance Plan. It is a basic reform. The benefits would be apparent in the forthcoming two or three years notably, after enactment.

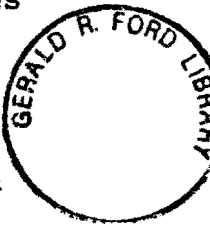
It would be necessary to support the starting costs involved because it would ultimately reduce expenditures and is far better than the presently excessively wasteful program which is a constantly escalating program.

It could not, of course, justify any "Christmas tree" actions in the Congress to make it less feasible in its operation.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I might add a point on that. In various speeches I make around the country, I inevitably ask this question, "Is there anyone in the audience who defends the existing system?" I have yet to see a person stand up and raise his hand, and, for a good reason.

In the City of New York, I think, in the last several years, the number of people on welfare went from around 250,000 to the present figure of 1,050,000. This is a trend that is going on all over the country.

So, the present system just cannot be defended. The best way to solve it is to come in with a revolutionary new program such as the President has recommended in Family Assistance. And, although the starting cost may be a little higher, the long-range projection is a projection of a cheaper cost and a better program which involves the work incentive aspect.



SENATOR SCOTT: And the President is firmly and enthusiastically behind the Family Assistance Program.

Q Congressman Ford, would you describe just how Congress could enact a meaningful expenditure ceiling? How would you frame such a thing?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The ceiling first has to be related to a responsible figure. That figure is \$205 billion.

Now, that means that Congress has to have a flat ceiling where there can be no exceptions. In other words, you cannot establish a ceiling and then let Congress, by one or more authorizations or appropriations bills, violate the ceiling that they imposed themselves.

What they have to do is impose the ceiling, and then say on the various votes thereafter that there will not be any exceptions whatsoever.

Now, we are in the process right now of trying to find the words or the phrases or the techniques in order to achieve that so that Congress is responsible and that Congress will hold its own feet to the fire.

Q Mr. Ford, who are the big spenders?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Well, the big spenders are those that day after day are adding to the appropriation bills. Now we understand that this afternoon, on the floor of the House, there will be an effort made to increase the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare's appropriation bill by approximately \$400 million over and above the recommendation of the committee. This effort to add about \$400 million to this appropriation bill will come from the Democratic side.

We hope to defeat this inflationary, additional spending. It is a clear indication, in this case, of whether we are going to win the battle against the big spenders.

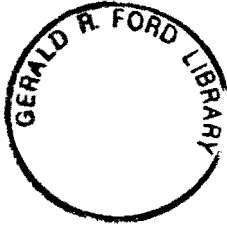
Q How much Republican support do you predict for that Democratic bill to increase.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There will be a minimum of Republican support for the increase and the major fight against the increase will come from the Republican side, as it has in practically every instance in this Session of the Congress.

Q What are the chances of passing the Family Assistance Plan? Is it still "fair", as the President said?

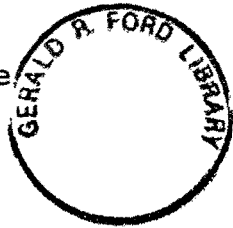
CONGRESSMAN FORD: Well, of course, we have already passed it in the House of Representatives. I would defer to Senator Scott.

SENATOR SCOTT: Mr. Richardson is testifying before the Senate committee today and he will throw the full support of the Administration behind the bill. As you know, the Senate committees like to make their own recommendations and suggestions, but the important thing is to get this bill out relatively unimpaired.



Q Senator, have the Republicans who have opposed it in committee been convinced to back this bill now and get it out of the committee?

SENATOR SCOTT: I would hope that enough of the Republicans will become convinced after they have heard the testimony and have become fully aware of the concern which the Administration has for what is truly a reform and not merely a rehash of unworkable programs.



Q Mr. Ford, if it becomes clear that we are losing the battle against the big spenders, will the President impose the tax increases that have been mentioned?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There was no discussion of that point, but the danger is very obvious. If you don't win the battle against big spenders the American people face two bad prospects: One, inflation again gaining momentum, and two, the necessity of Congress doing something to pay for the programs that they have authorized.

Now, Congress, by going down this road of the big spenders, has an obligation to come up with some tax proposals to pay for it. The better procedure is to not spend, and then you obviate the need and necessity for the tax.

Q Before you get out of this budget-blaming game which has gone on for many, many years, aren't you going to have to come up with a new system, something which will enable you people to have one look at the whole package?

SENATOR SCOTT: Jerry can comment on that. That was tried in about 1946 or 1947 and it did not work in that Congress.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I believe that Mr. Cannon and Mr. Tabor tried it in 1949 or 1950, where they had all of the appropriation bills on the Floor of the House for about two months and then when they got through, after that long, long process, the net result was not much better than the system that we are using today.

The main problem is self-restraint on the part of the Congress, whether you do it in a package or whether you do it in individual appropriation bills. Unfortunately, the big spenders today are probably foreclosing the kind of constructive programs that we badly want in a year or two, and badly need. For example, if you go on the spending binge which the Congress is on at the present time, it probably obviates the possibility of the revenue-sharing program, which all Mayors want, all Governors seek.

You cannot possibly share excess revenue if it does not exist. So, I think these people who want to spend it all today ought to be told that they are knocking out the possibility of some very good programs, such as revenue-sharing in a year or two, or some of these other programs that the Department of HEW has under blueprint stage at the present time.

Q But you don't think there is any possibility of some revision of the system that could be made to work?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I would be willing to try if we could get some cooperation and self-restraint in the meantime. But just going through a different format does not necessarily mean we will get a better result.

SENATOR SCOTT: What we may need is that legislative miracle drug, "self-denial". (Laughter)

Q Do you think the President will veto the Education Bill in its present form and did you discuss that this morning?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: We did not discuss that particular bill. That legislation, as it finally emerged, was a great improvement over the version that came out of the Senate. The House Conferees, on that occasion, I thought did a remarkably good job in getting the figures as close as they did to the House figure. That particular bill is one that is hypersensitive. I can only say that in the House we thought that because we had done so well that many, many members supported it regardless of the increase over the budget.

SENATOR SCOTT: There may be, in some instances, situations where, if a bill becomes law with or without the President's signature and it has a Congressional cost overrun on it, where the President might feel obliged to take it out of somebody else's favorite program. That could happen.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Speaking of cost overruns, if I might add a comment -- this was not discussed at the meeting this morning -- but I could not overlook a comment made by a member of the other body yesterday that in effect condemned Secretary Laird and the Department of Defense for some of these cost overruns. I went back and checked the figures and in the areas where the biggest cost overruns are, these are contracts which were signed under the previous Administrations.

Let me cite three, for example: The F-111 Fighter Bomber, that is a contract that was signed in December of 1962. Obviously, it was a bad contract from the point of view of the then Administration. The C-5A, another big cost overrun; that contract was signed in October of 1965. The blame should be on the previous Administration for poor management, rather than condemning Mel Laird for the bills that he has to pay as a result of bad contract management.

Q Isn't it really a question of the management of the contract in this Administration? Look at Fitzgerald who told you people about a \$2 million cost overrun, and you did nothing about it but fire him.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: But the only reason you have a cost overrun is because the basic contract which in one case was signed in 1962 and the other in 1965 was poor negotiation on the part of those in positions of responsibility. The person today is only paying the bill because of the poor contracts which were signed three, four or five years ago.

Q Then why don't you all terminate the contracts? You have a board over there that you have working that can do that.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The contracts, if you eliminate them, probably have some additional costs for termination. Now, the contract in the first instance was apparently badly negotiated, and the cost overrun today is the result of that bad management at that time.

Q Yet you have the same men at the Department of Defense today who are making the same type of contracts as made those contracts and you have done nothing to put them out and you have had the list because I gave it to you.  
(Laughter)



CONGRESSMAN FORD: As a matter of fact, the list came from a publication that I sent over to get the contract signing dates. I have it here and it shows about 15 contracts and all but three of them were signed prior to January 20, 1970.

Q Yet you have the same men there, still making the same contracts.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Well, I don't want to get into a fight over whether Mel Laird and Bob MacNamara are one and the same. They are not. Most of those contracts were signed during the previous Administration, and Mel Laird was not there at the time. So, he cannot be held responsible for contracts that were poorly negotiated.

Q Mr. Ford, would you please name the big spenders for us? Who do you have in mind?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think you can look down the list of those who have, for example, offered amendments to increase the spending in various appropriations.

Q I don't know those people. If you can name them for me it would be a help.

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I think if you will just read the Congressional Record you will find the names of the individuals who offered the amendments or sent out the propaganda sheets which we all got yesterday indicating they are going to offer the amendments today.

Q Of course, we can look them up, but there would be more impact if you would name them in public.

Q Why should we live with an anonymous blanket indictment?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I will name one, for example: Congressman Cohelan of California was the principal sponsor of the \$1 billion increase in the education appropriation bill last year. I understand that Congressman Sid Yates, along with others, is going to offer an amendment today to increase the HEW appropriation bill by approximately \$400 million.

Q Do you have any problems with Republicans who are tacking on these increases?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Very, very few. The overwhelming majority of those amendments come from the other side of the aisle, the more liberal members of the Democratic Party who apparently want to spend everything now and are not willing to step up and find the resources to pay the bills.

Q Are there only two big spenders in Congress or are there more? How many are there altogether?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: There are certainly more. There is unfortunately, apparently, a majority. I was responding to the inquiry asking me to name several of those who had sponsored such amendments.

Q Could you go down the list and name them for us?

Q Is the problem with the economy simply one with the big spenders in Congress or might there be something wrong with the President's policy?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The Administration submitted to the Congress in January of this year a balanced budget for the fiscal year 1971. Because the Congress has added to the appropriations, the prospect in fiscal 1971 are different than they were under the President's budget. The President at least submitted a balanced budget and this Congress, unfortunately, is adding to the expenditures and the net result is complicating the problem of a surplus.

Q How much of this problem has come from the budget's low estimates that have been revised from time to time as the President found that the tab for his various projects was going up?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: The President has not added to the individual items, with one or two minor exceptions. Any problem in the surplus for fiscal 1971 has come from a lesser income from taxes. The real problem is coming from the extra authorizations and appropriations that have been prompted by the big spenders in the Congress.

Q The incorrect estimates then are in the in-coming revenues, rather than his expenditures?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: In the main, yes, sir.

Q What was the difference in what he received and what he first projected?

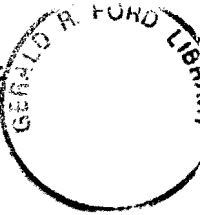
CONGRESSMAN FORD: I can't recollect those precise figures.

Q But it directly affected the deficit, didn't it?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: To some extent, surely.

Q Mr. Ford, wasn't it the recommendation of the men you have named that are the big spenders that the money ought to come from the space program and other heavy missile and weapons programs? Aren't they saying that it ought to be a reallocation not that we should add to the budget, but that the money should be reallocated?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: But the President has already made that reallocation. As Senator Scott indicated, in the budget for fiscal 1971, for the first time since 1950, the allocation for human resources is more than that for the Department of Defense. If you go back to 1962, I think you see the most dramatic shift. Under the Kennedy Administration the allocation for defense was, as I recollect, 48 percent against 24 percent. Today it is 41 percent for human resources and 37 percent for the Defense Department.



Q My question was: Isn't the argument between you and your "big spending" opponents, as you call them, over what we ought to spend money on. Don't they say we ought to go further in cuts and not, for example, develop an ABM? Isn't that one program they have been against?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: I don't think, as we look down the road, that we can afford to strip the Defense Department of necessary capabilities for the security of the United States. Any slashes of the Defense Department will further complicate our problem as we face the Soviet Union and other countries that have the desire to use their military might for war when we are trying to keep our military capability so its strong enough to preserve the peace.

SENATOR SCOTT: May I make a point right here? You hear a lot of talk about reordering priorities, which being translated means, "I want more for my crowd" and that is exactly what is happening. There is one overriding number one priority, and that is the defense and the security of the United States. Whatever we can do with the revenues has to be done with that in mind. What is happening is that in an election year a great many people, without any regard to fiscal responsibility at all are simply adding a figure and stringing a lot of zeros behind it and thereby hoping to bust the budget accordingly.

Now, the Administration is making a fight to put a curb on inflation and the news on the price index is just out and you can follow this up with Mr. Ziegler, but living costs rose 4/10 of .1 percent in June. The June rise of this 4/10 of .1 percent was the same as the May increase and thereby represents a slowdown from the 6/10 hike in April and the increases of 5/10 each in February and March. This again shows a bottoming out of the difficulties with regard to the economy and a slower and steady gaining in the fight against inflation.

Q Let's get back a moment to the big spenders problem. How much on target are we now on the estimates of tax revenues? Will we get as much as we think we will now or can we expect even more to be decreased in the collections?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: Well, as the economy starts to build up in the months ahead and the testimony of Dr. Paul McCracken yesterday was that we had bottomed out and it looks more encouraging in the months ahead, I would anticipate as the profit picture improves that there will be more revenue in the months ahead than we might have forecast a month or two ago. As the economy improves, corporations make more money and the tax revenue of the Federal Treasury is helped.

Q I understand the mechanics of it, but was there some talk this morning of the need for a tax on the individual income?

CONGRESSMAN FORD: No, there was no discussion of that at all.

Q Ron, were those living cost figures on the wire?

MR. ZIEGLER: They just moved. He was referring to an AP bulletin that just moved.

THE PRESS: Thank you, gentlemen.

END

(AT 11:42 A.M. EDT)



HOUSE ACTION, PERIOD JULY 7 THROUGH JULY 20, 1970



Tuesday, July 7, 1970

HOUSE CONSIDERED THE PRIVATE CALENDAR

PEACE CORPS

RULE

The House adopted, by a voice vote, H. Res. 1119 providing one hour of open debate.

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 316 yeas to 46 nays, the House passed H.R. 16327, to amend the Peace Corps Act to authorize additional appropriations.

Subsequently, this passage was vacated and S. 3430, a similar Senate-passed bill, was passed in lieu after being amended to contain the language of the House bill as passed.

RECOMMIT

By a record vote of 118 yeas to 244 nays, the House rejected a motion by Mr. Gross to recommit the bill to the Committee on Foreign Affairs with instructions to report it back forthwith containing an amendment that would reduce the authorization by \$28.8 million.

SILVER OR GOLD ARTICLES

RULE

By a voice vote, the House adopted H. Res. 1092 providing one hour of open debate.

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 351 yeas to 9 nays, the House passed H.R. 8673, to protect consumers by providing a civil remedy for misrepresentation of the quality of articles composed in whole or in part of gold or silver.

Subsequently, this passage was vacated and S. 1046, a similar Senate-passed bill, was passed in lieu after being amended to contain the language of the House bill as passed.

Wednesday, July 8, 1970

LOBBYING PRACTICES--CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

By a record vote of 381 yeas, the House agreed to H. Res. 1031, amending clause 19 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives with respect to lobbying practices and political campaign contributions affecting the House of Representatives.





Wednesday, July 8, 1970 (continued)

INDEPENDENT OFFICES-IND APPROPRIATIONS

House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 17540, making appropriations for Independent Offices and Housing and Urban Development, and agreed to a conference asked by the Senate. Appointed as conferees: Representatives Ewins of Tennessee, Boland, Shipley, Giacomo, Marsh, Pryor of Arkansas, Mahon, Jonas, Telecott, McDade, Del Clawson, and Bow.

FAILING NEWSPAPERS

RULE

The House adopted by a voice vote H. Res. 1121, providing two hours of open debate.

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 292 yeas to 87 nays, with 2 voting "present," the House passed H.R. 279, to exempt from the antitrust laws certain joint newspaper operating arrangements.

Subsequently, this passage was vacated and S. 1520, a similar Senate-passed bill was passed in lieu after being amended to contain the language of the House bill as passed.

RECOMMIT

By a voice vote, the House rejected a motion by Mr. MacGregor to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Thursday, July 9, 1970

ARTS AND HUMANITIES FOUNDATION

The House insisted on its amendment to S. 3215, to amend the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965; and agreed to a conference asked by the Senate. Appointed as conferees: Representatives Perkins, Thompson of New Jersey, Brodemas, Bell of New York, and Scherle.

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

The House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 15626, to amend the Foreign Military Sales Act; and agreed to a conference asked by the Senate. Appointed as conferees: Representatives Morgan, Jablonski, Hays, Adair, and Mailliard.

By a record vote of 247 yeas to 143 nays, the House agreed to order the previous question on sending the measure to conference.

(more)



FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (continued)

By a record vote of 237 yeas and 153 nays with 1 voting "present," the House agreed to table a motion by Mr. Riegler to instruct House conferees to concur in Senate amendment No. 3 (Cooper-Church amendment, bars funds for retaining U.S. forces in Cambodia).

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

The House insisted on its amendment to S. 1076, to establish a pilot program in the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture designated as the Youth Conservation Corps; and agreed to a conference asked by the Senate. Appointed as conferees: Representatives Perkins, Daniels of New Jersey, O'Hara, Hathaway, William D. Ford, Mads, Burton of California, Green of Oregon, Hawkins, Gaydos, Scherle, Quie, Esch, Steiger of Wisconsin, Erlenborn, Eshleman, and Collins.

POSTAL REFORM

The House disagreed to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 17070, to improve and modernize the postal service, to reorganize the Post Office Department; and asked a conference with the Senate. Appointed as conferees: Representatives Dulski, Henderson, (Mr. Hall, Daniels of New Jersey, Gerbett, Gross, Cunningham, and Dwyerski.

By a record vote of 225 yeas to 180 nays, the House agreed to a motion by Mr. Henderson to instruct House conferees to insist on the "freedom of choice" language regarding membership in postal unions in the bill as passed by the House.

By a record vote of 153 yeas to 230 nays, the House rejected a motion by Mr. Dulski to lay the Henderson motion on the table.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS

RULE

By a voice vote, the House adopted H. Res. 1070 providing one hour of open debate.

PASSAGE

By a record vote of 284 yeas to 57 nays, the House passed H.R. 16968, to provide for the adjustment of the Government contribution with respect to the health benefits coverage of Federal employees and annuitants.

RECOMMIT

By a record vote of 142 yeas to 199 nays, the House rejected a motion by Mr. Gross to recommit the bill to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service with instructions to report it back containing an amendment that would reduce the Government contribution from 56 to 33 percent.



Monday, July 13, 1970

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 17619, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971; and agreed to the conference asked by the Senate. Appointed as conferees: Representatives Hansen of Washington, Mirwan, March, Flynt, Obey, Mahon, Reifel, McDade, Hyatt, and Bow.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES FOUNDATION

By a record vote of 237 yeas to 69 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on S. 2215, to amend the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965; and returned the measure to the Senate for further action.

D. C. LEGISLATION

By a voice vote, the House passed the following bills pertaining to the District of Columbia:

H.R. 17146, to amend the act incorporating Columbian College (the George Washington University), amended.

H.R. 15036, to authorize the Commissioner of the District of Columbia to sell or exchange certain real property owned by the District in Prince William County, Va.

COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION ACT

The House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 17111, to amend the District of Columbia Cooperative Association Act; and asked a conference with the Senate. Appointed as conferees: Representatives McMillan, Fuqua, Dowdy, Nelson, and Broyhill of Virginia.

LEGISLATIVE REORGANIZATION

RULE

By a voice vote, the House adopted H. Res. 1090 providing four hours of open debate.

Concluded all general debate on H.R. 17654, to improve the operation of the legislative branch of the Federal Government. Began reading the bill for amendment when the Committee of the Whole rose. Proceedings under the 5-minute rule will continue tomorrow.



Tuesday, July 14, 1970

LEGISLATIVE REORGANIZATION

The House continued consideration on H.R. 1765A, to improve the operation of the legislative branch of the Federal Government, but came to no resolution thereon. Consideration will continue tomorrow.

While in the Committee of the Whole, the House took the following action:

Agreed by a voice vote to an amendment by Mr. Ross regarding the scheduling of committee meetings, specifying that three members of a committee may file a written request with the committee chairman, requesting a committee meeting, and specifying the business to be considered. If the chairman doesn't schedule said meeting within 3 days, by a majority vote of the committee, a meeting may be scheduled.

Agreed by a voice vote to an amendment by Mr. Pascall that requires that a record of all roll call votes in committees be available to the public. The committee record would include how each Member voted and whether the vote was cast in person or by proxy.

Agreed by a voice vote to an amendment by Mr. Smith of California to the previous amendment that provides for the printing in one report accompanying a bill, the record vote by which the bill was reported out of the committee.

Agreed by a division vote of 71 yeas to 54 nays to an amendment by Mr. Schwergal that bans proxy voting in committees.

By a teller vote of 192 yeas to 192 nays, the House rejected the Hathaway amendment that called for an open session roll call vote by a quorum of committee members to determine on a day-by-day basis whether the committee meeting for that particular day would be open or executive.

Wednesday, July 15, 1970

APPLES

Cleared for the President S. 1656, to permit marketing orders applicable to apples to provide for paid advertising, by reading from the House amendment thereto.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS

The House disagreed to the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 16915, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971, and agreed to a conference asked by the Senate. Appointed as conferees: Representatives Andrews of Alabama, Hiram Yates, Casey, Evans of Colorado, Mahon, Bow, Langen, Reifel, and Dan Glawson.



Wednesday, July 15, 1970 (continued)

D. C. CRIME AND CRIMINAL PROGRAMS ACT

By a record vote of 332 yeas to 64 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on S. 2601, to reorganize the courts of the District of Columbia, and returned the measure to the Senate for further action.

NSF AUTHORIZATION

By a record vote of 311 yeas to 75 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on H.R. 16305, to authorize appropriations for activities of the National Science Foundation, clearing the measure for the White House.

SEA GRANT AUTHORIZATION

The House agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 11133, to amend title II of the Marine Resources and Engineering Development Act of 1966, clearing the measure for the President.

LEGISLATIVE REORGANIZATION

The House continued consideration on H.R. 17331, to improve the operation of the legislative branch of the Federal Government, but came to no resolution thereon. Consideration will continue tomorrow.

While in the Committee of the Whole, by a voice vote, the House agreed to an amendment by Mr. Stojeger of Wisconsin that excludes Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in the computation of 5 calendar days for the filing of supplemental, minority, or additional views for inclusion in the printing of a report.

CANCER CRUSADE

The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 675, expressing the sense of the Congress with respect to the conquest of cancer as a national crusade.

Thursday, July 16, 1970

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ACT

By a record vote of 174 yeas to 207 nays, the House rejected the conference report on H.R. 14605, to amend the International Travel Act of 1961, as amended, in order to improve the balance of payments by further promoting travel to the United States.

OFFICE OF EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

By a record vote of 357 yeas to 30 nays, the House agreed to the conference report on H.R. 16916, making appropriations for the Office of Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971.



Thursday, July 16, 1970 (continued)

LEGISLATIVE REORGANIZATION

The House continued consideration on H.R. 17654, to improve the operation of the legislative branch of the Federal Government, but came to no resolution thereon. Consideration will continue on Monday, July 20.

While in the Committee of the Whole, by a teller vote of 105 yeas to 63 nays, the House agreed to an amendment by Mr. Thompson of New Jersey, that provides that not less than one-third of committee funds be used for investigatory staff for the minority.

Monday, July 20, 1970

HOUSE CONSIDERED THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

SUSPENSIONS (6 BILLS)

The House voted to suspend the rules and passed the following bills:

H.R. 18253, to increase the availability of guaranteed home loan financing for veterans (passed by a roll call vote of 326 yeas to 0 nays.)

H.R. 14114, to improve the administration of the national park system (passed by a roll call vote of 325 yeas to 0 nays.)

The House voted to suspend the rules and passed the following bills by voice vote:

S. 3279, to extend the boundaries of the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada.

H.R. 12475, the Federal Aid in Fish and Wildlife Restoration Acts.

H.R. 14124, to extend the term for fisheries loans.

H.R. 15351, to authorize additional funds for the operation of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission.

EMERGENCY HOUSING

By a voice vote, the House agreed to the conference report on S. 3685, the Emergency Home Finance Act.

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

House agreed to the Senate amendments on S. 3889, which extends for one year the authority of the Federal Reserve Board to purchase United States obligations, clearing the measure for the President.



Monday, July 20, 1970 (continued)

LEGISLATIVE REORGANIZATION

By a teller vote of 93 yeas to 96 nays, the House defeated an amendment by Mr. Dennis which would have stricken Section 116 from the Bill which permits televising of committee hearings.

By a voice vote, the House defeated an amendment by Mr. Harvey of Michigan which would have allowed the committees to set up their own regulations as far as televising of committee hearings was concerned.

HOUSE RECESS

The House agreed by voice vote to recess from the close of business Friday, August 14 until noon Wednesday, September 9, 1970, subject to recall by the Speaker on three-days notice.

PROGRAM AHEAD

Tuesday, July 21, 1970, and Balance of Week

PRIVATE CALENDAR

- H.R. 18515 - Department of Labor-Department of Health, Education, and Welfare Appropriations Bill, FY 1971
- S. 3978 - Wheat referendum  
(OPEN RULE - ONE HOUR OF DEBATE)
- H.R. 17654 - Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970  
(CONTINUE CONSIDERATION)
- H.R. 13100 - To extend programs for training in the allied health professions.  
(OPEN RULE - ONE HOUR OF DEBATE)
- H.R. 14237 - To amend the Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act of 1963  
(OPEN RULE - ONE HOUR OF DEBATE)
- H.R. 16542 - To regulate the mailing of unsolicited credit cards.  
(OPEN RULE - TWO HOURS OF DEBATE)