



# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



June 6, 1962

With Memorial Day coming in the middle of last week, activity in the House of Representatives was at a slow pace. Meeting for 19 minutes on Monday the House adjourned until Thursday when it discussed some amendments to the National School Lunch Act. Thereafter it adjourned to Monday of this week when bills on the consent calendar were acted upon. Also scheduled for consideration this week is further action on the School Lunch bill, extension of the current corporate tax rate, legislation making it a crime to obstruct an investigation by a federal agency, and a bill relative to armed forces procurement.

**THE KERR-MILLS ACT:** With all the current emphasis on the King-Anderson proposals, present benefits from the Kerr-Mills bill enacted into law in 1960 upon the recommendation of President Eisenhower may be overlooked. This Act provides assistance in meeting hospital and medical bills for needy persons over 65 whether they are covered by social security or not. It helps others than those eligible for old age assistance (most of whose hospital and medical bills are met by OAA) but whose income and net worth are limited. It is working effectively in Kent and Ottawa Counties.

During 1961 a total of 1,367 persons in the Fifth District received assistance under the Kerr-Mills Act to the extent of \$1,033,613. To be eligible for this help in Michigan a person must be at least 65 and not receiving old age assistance, have an annual income not in excess of \$1,500 (or \$2,500 if married), and have property worth not more than \$1,500 (\$2,000 if married) but this property does NOT include the homestead, clothing and household effects, cash value of life insurance, or the first \$1,000 market value of tangible personal property used in earning income.

The Kerr-Mills Act is administered by the State Department of Social Welfare through the Kent County Department of Social Welfare (1260 Butterworth, S. W.) and the Ottawa County Bureau of Social Aid (Holland). Sixty applications were approved in Ottawa County in 1961 with benefits totaling \$22,720.74. During the first five months of 1962 there have been 45 applications in Ottawa County and 34 were approved. Benefits received in Ottawa County under the Kerr-Mills Act are now running between \$5,000 and \$6,000 a month.

In Kent County last year 1,157 persons were assisted by Kerr-Mills at a cost of \$549,123.46. In addition an average of 150 individuals per month obtained "long-term medical care" at Maple Grove Facility which was reimbursed by Kerr-Mills funds to the

extent of \$461,768.80. This means that a total of \$1,010,892.26 was distributed in Kent County in 1961 under the Kerr-Mills Act.

During the first four months of this year 374 individuals in Kent County were assisted at a cost of \$192,534.14 while just over 200 persons at Maple Grove benefited to the extent of \$203,504.50 from the Kerr-Mills Program.

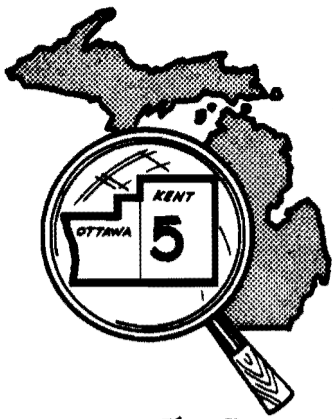
**\$1½ TRILLION IN U. S. DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS:** On Memorial Day Senator Harry Byrd, Democratic Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee issued a statement explaining that the U. S. Government in the fiscal year beginning July 1 will have authority to spend funds and an outstanding federal debt and other commitments of at least \$1,242 billion. This includes a debt subject to limitation of \$296 billion, current authority to obligate \$188 billion, promises to pay under certain circumstances such as federal insurances and guaranteed loans of \$338 billion, and moral commitments such as to the social security trust fund, retirement systems, and highway trust fund of \$420 billion.

Senator Byrd agreed that some of the obligations are "remote," and that others will become actual obligations only under unfavorable circumstances but the figures do show "the Government's obligations and commitments as they exist." However, the Senator also emphasized the \$1½ trillion figure "is far from complete; it does not include untold billions in clear and certain commitments for future spending which cannot be calculated."

**FEDERAL PRISONERS:** The latest annual Report of the U. S. Board of Parole which I received last week indicates that the number of prisoners housed in 32 federal correctional institutions has risen about 1,000 in each of the past four years. The average prisoner population during fiscal 1961 was 24,240. This figure does not include the more than 3,000 federal prisoners serving short sentences in state and local institutions. The adult federal prisoner population continues to be characterized by a large number who have committed such crimes as bank robbery, auto theft, and assault. If the total number of federal prisoners seems small in comparison to the population of our state penitentiaries we must remember that only violations of federal law are punished in federal courts and that most criminal acts are covered by state law.

During 1961 the Parole Board conducted 14,001 hearings and granted parole in 34.4 percent of the adult cases. Of particular interest is the following statement from page 11 of the Report: "It is quite evident that practically all prisoners are eventually returned to the community either with or without supervision. The misconception of much of the general public to the effect that notorious criminals are 'put away for keeps' obviously is a fallacy. It is to be emphasized that practically all violators return to the neighborhoods throughout the nation either with or without supervision, depending on the law and the length of sentence imposed."

During 1961 a total of 8,105 prisoners were released from federal institutions (6,072 paroled; 2,033 mandatory releases) while during the same year the Board issued 1,241 parole violation warrants. The records show that the first six months following release is a crucial period with approximately 50 percent of all parole violation warrants issued during that period.



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**JERRY FORD**

June 13, 1962



The House of Representatives passed the amendments to the National School Lunch Act mentioned last week but only after two days of debate and two roll call votes. I voted for the bill (H. R. 11665) on final passage when it was approved 370 to 11. The amendments changed the formula for apportionment of federal funds for the school lunch program among the states and authorized a special fund for areas with particular economic and financial needs. Under present law, funds are apportioned on the basis of total school-age population. H. R. 11665 changes this to base the distribution of federal funds on the number of school lunches served during the previous year and on the "assistance need rate for the state."

The major dispute arose over who is to determine the "needy areas" which would receive greater federal assistance. The bill as passed leaves this decision with the Secretary of Agriculture. Many of us felt that this determination could better and more properly be made by the State educational agency (in Michigan: State Department of Public Instruction) according to certain guidelines laid down by the Congress. However, a motion was defeated 160 to 220 which would have permitted the States rather than the Secretary of Agriculture to designate the "needy areas" eligible for additional assistance. I voted to leave this matter to State officials.

**CORPORATE AND EXCISE TAXES EXTENDED:** The House voted last Wednesday to extend for another year the present corporate and excises taxes with the exception of the transportation tax on persons. The present 10 percent tax on tickets for travel on railroads, buses, or waterways will be continued only until Dec. 31, 1962 when the tax will expire. The 10 percent tax on airline tickets, however, will remain until Dec. 31 when it will be reduced to 5 percent for the following six months.

If this legislation (H. R. 11879) does not become law there will be a loss in revenue to the Federal Treasury of from \$2.7 to \$2.9 billion in fiscal 1963 and from \$4.0 to \$4.3 billion the following year. If the bill is not passed the 52 percent corporate income tax goes to 47 percent; the tax on distilled spirits would be reduced from \$10.50 to \$9 per proof gallon, the beer tax from \$9 to \$8 a barrel, wines taxes by 11 percent, cigarettes from 8¢ to 7¢ a pack, passenger cars from 10 to 7 percent, and telephone service from 10 percent to no tax.

While all of us would welcome a reduction in federal taxes, the anticipated deficit for next year of at least \$4 billion makes any suggestion of a substantial tax reduction unrealistic and irresponsible unless there is a corresponding reduction in federal ex-

penditures. It should be elementary that under current conditions federal expenditures must be curtailed and this can be done by eliminating and cutting back low-priority non-defense programs and projects. The bill extending the taxes for a year was approved by a voice vote.

**EISENHOWER AND THE KENNEDY BUDGETS:** Appropriations in President Kennedy's 1963 budget exceed by \$18.4 billion those of Mr. Eisenhower's 1962 budget according to a recent computation by a House Committee. Four days before he left office President Eisenhower recommended appropriations in fiscal 1962 of \$80.8 billion. A year later President Kennedy suggested a 1963 budget with spending at \$99.3 billion. Both of these amounts include costs for new legislation contemplated by each budget.

There is an \$8.3 billion increase in the Kennedy Budget for military functions in the Department of Defense but this is less than a 20 percent increase and leaves \$10 billion to be otherwise accounted for. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare accounts for \$2.2 billion of the increase with expenditures 55 percent greater than proposed by Ike. NASA is up \$2.6 billion for an increase of 240 percent. The Kennedy Budget requires \$800 million more to pay the interest on the public debt (up 9 percent).

Secretary Freeman's Department of Agriculture will cost \$917 million more in fiscal 1963 than Mr. Eisenhower proposed for 1962 or an increase of 16 percent. While Mr. Kennedy proposes to cut our military assistance under Mutual Security from \$1.8 billion to \$1.5 billion, he suggests spending \$1.1 billion more on economic foreign aid or a 54 percent increase.

All of these expenditures are from current or future tax revenues. With economic conditions as they are and with federal deficits of \$4 to \$7 billion assured for this year and next, it should be abundantly clear that federal expenditures must be curtailed. We cannot go on spending more and more tax money or borrowed funds.

**TO RAISE THE DEBT LIMIT:** Scheduled for consideration this week is legislation to temporarily raise the limit on the national debt to \$308 billion for nine months beginning July 1st, to \$305 billion from April 1 to June 24, 1963, and then back to \$300 billion on June 25, 1963.

While I supported the bill passed by the House on February 20th to raise the debt limit to \$300 billion, I stated in my newsletter of February 28th that we in the Congress have a "responsibility to encourage the President to make a bona fide effort to curtail and restrict non-defense expenditures." One means of doing this is to restrict the size of the public debt. I do not intend to support a \$308 limitation but may vote for a lower figure if the House is given that opportunity.

**"AFTER A HUNDRED YEARS:"** The 1962 Yearbook of Agriculture is a story on the development of agriculture during the past century. Its title is derived from the fact that the U. S. Department of Agriculture was established a hundred years ago. I have a limited supply of the 1962 Yearbook available upon request to my office at 351 House Office Building, Washington, D. C.





# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman

## JERRY FORD

June 20, 1962



The majority leadership of the House of Representatives decided to postpone until Tuesday of this week action on the omnibus farm bill (H.R.11222) originally scheduled for consideration last week. It became obvious a week ago that the Administration did not have the votes to pass the bill. More time was needed to line up support among Democrats for this drastic regimentation on the farmers of America. I know of no Republican member of the House who intends to vote for this legislative monstrosity.

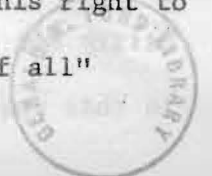
The bill squeezed out of the Committee on Agriculture by a vote of 18 to 17 with one proponent publicly stating he would oppose the bill on the floor of the House. This is especially significant when we note that the Democrats control the Committee 21 to 14.

While this bill is not identical to Secretary Freeman's proposals presented earlier this year as H.R.10010 which I discussed in my newsletter of March 7, it is the Administration's plan for expanding the power of the Federal bureaucracy over American agriculture and further destroying the rights of farmers to use and enjoy their farms. It is not a bill which I can support.

In this limited space it is impossible to list all the specific weaknesses and injustices of this bill. I do want to mention some objections which are of special interest to Michigan and to smaller, family-type farmers everywhere:

1. The wheat grown in Michigan does not contribute to the wheat surplus, yet the bill applies strict controls and further cuts in acreage to Michigan wheat. Michigan produces soft white and soft red winter wheat which is not in surplus. But the same restrictions are proposed for Michigan producers of this wheat as for those who grow hard red winter wheat which while accounting for 52 percent of the total wheat grown in the U.S. in the past decade made up over 93 percent of the total wheat accumulated by the Government as surplus.

2. Michigan is a state of small wheat farms. In 1960 over 84 percent of our wheat-producing farms grew 15 acres or less. In that year there were only 64 farms in Michigan with more than 100 acres of wheat. In the words of the minority report, "this bill is probably the most harsh and vindictive measure ever aimed at the small wheat farmer. He is flagrantly discriminated against in voting and in marketing." In order to vote in the wheat referendum the wheat grower with 15 acres or less must agree in writing to comply with the farm acreage allotment. If he doesn't promise and doesn't vote, he is still subject to severe penalties for overplanting his assigned acreage. Furthermore, any producer who decides to come under the "small farm exemption" provided in the bill loses his right to sell wheat for food or for export. This is "perhaps the most unfair provision of all" according to minority members of the Committee.



3. The Minority Report also shows that these small wheat growers will suffer a loss in income of \$107 million a year if the bill passes. Under present law a grower with an allotment of 15 acres or less may plant the lower of 13½ acres or the highest planted acreage in 1959, 1960 or 1961. He may sell his wheat in the open market for a price fairly close to the price support -- for 1962 about \$2 a bushel.

Under Sec. Freeman's bill the 13½ acre exemption will end and the small farm base acreage will be the 1957-61 average. Any farmer who plants above his allotment will not be eligible for price supports and will not get a certificate to sell wheat for food or export. These small producers would get about \$1.40 per bushel, or 60¢ less than in 1962. This will mean a loss of nearly \$11 million in Michigan where about 60 percent of the farms used the exemption provision in 1960. It is truly regrettable that the New Frontiersmen can only suggest further bureaucratic control with accompanying penalties as the way out for small producers.

4. The bill reimposes acreage allotments and marketing quotas on corn, oats, rye, barley, and grain sorghum even though they have been proved unworkable in the past and about 80 percent of these grains are feed to animals on the farm where produced. Moreover, severe civil penalties (fines) would be imposed for violations of the quota limitation ordered for each farm.

5. The referendum open to all larger producers and certain small farmers gives them the choice of accepting price supports and production controls or nothing at all except the threat of having the equivalent of 1/3 billion bushels of feed grains dumped on the market. This makes a mockery of the referendum process. Under the Kennedy-Freeman farm bill the farmer's choice in the voting booth is between pressure bureaucratic regimentation or financial ruin. One can honestly ask - Is this a free choice in our American system?

6. As in the case of wheat, thousands of small farmers will not be eligible to vote in the feed grains referendum unless they promise to comply with the acreage allotment, but in any event they are subject to penalties (fines) for overplanting their assigned acreage.

This brief description gives some indication of the degree of regimentation suffered by U.S. farmers and the power of bureaucratic authority over the lives of small producers. The new bill will compound the evils.

**PUBLIC DEBT LIMIT:** The House has voted to set the debt limit at \$308 billion. This \$8 billion increase over the present limitation was demanded by the Kennedy Administration. I voted against the \$8 billion increase but supported a proposal to put the limit at \$306 billion. I recognize the necessity of granting the Treasury Department certain leeway in managing the public debt and this means a degree of flexibility within a debt ceiling. But if the debt limitation is to have any meaning at all, it must be recognized as a signal or warning to the tax-spenders that the tax-payers are calling for a halt to deficit financing. The President and the Executive Branch of government must take the lead in fiscal responsibility but the Congress which approves spending schemes and appropriates funds must share in this responsibility.



# Your Washington Review

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**JERRY FORD**



June 27, 1962

The American people won a major victory in the House of Representatives last Thursday when 48 Democrats joined 167 Republicans to kill the Kennedy-Freeman farm bill by a vote of 215 to 205. My primary objections to this legislative monstrosity were outlined in last week's REVIEW. With two major defeats in two years, it is our hope that the Kennedy Administration will now revise its basic thinking on agriculture and come up with an equitable, constructive, and workable farm bill.

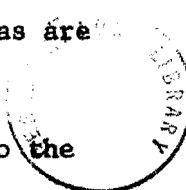
The bill before the House last week was defeated for three reasons. First, because of its lack of merit. Farmers, consumers, and taxpayers realized that bureaucratic regimentation of agriculture, federal subsidies, and overflowing storehouses were not the answers to the "farm problem." Second, the bill would have expanded the area of scandal. Senator Clinton Anderson, Democrat of New Mexico, who served as Secretary of Agriculture under President Truman from 1945 to 1948, voted against the bill in the Senate and told his constituents, "Bad farm legislation produces scandals of the Billie Sol Estes type. If it were not for cotton allotments which are tied to old histories, and for the enormous profits in storing Government grain which has piled up fantastic levels and costs us \$1,400,00 a day just to store, we wouldn't have such scandals....I have had enough of it, and I think most Americans feel the same way."

The third reason for defeat involved the resentment felt by many Democrats in the House toward the terrific pressure exerted on them by Administration spokesmen. When a Post Office official talks to a Representative not about eight new post offices in his District but only about the farm bill, the conscientious Representative is resentful. Such examples of "arm twisting" were all too prevalent during the past week.

**SUGAR BILL PASSES:** In order to insure an adequate supply of sugar for U. S. consumers at a reasonable price and to promote and protect the domestic sugar industry, the importation of sugar is the subject of special legislation. In this legislation the total U.S. sugar "requirement" of 9.7 million tons is allocated among mainland producers (beet and cane) Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and foreign producers. Since Castro's take-over of Cuba, it has been necessary to distribute Cuba's quota of 1.5 million tons to other producers. This fact multiplied the problems in the current legislation which had to be enacted promptly because the present law expires this Saturday.

The bill as passed by the House extends the Sugar Act to December 31, 1966 and assigns almost 60 percent of our sugar needs to domestic producers. The total domestic quotas are increased by about 625,000 tons or 12 percent.

A major issue which brought about a roll-call vote involved a provision put into the



bill by the Committee on Agriculture to refund \$22.7 million to three sugar companies which were authorized to import additional sugar to the U. S. from the Dominican Republic in 1960-61 due to the cut-back of Cuba's allotment. Because the U.S. did not want Dictator Trujillo's government to realize additional profit from the difference between world market prices and the higher prices paid on the American market for sugar, an import fee of 2½¢ a pound was placed on sugar imported from the Dominican Republic. Three foreign companies which paid the fee (\$22.7 million) are suing our Government for a refund in the U.S. Court of Claims.

I supported a motion to eliminate the provision from the bill because the matter is presently before the Court of Claims for determination. The Department of Justice states it has a valid defense and may win the case. The Congress should not provide these companies with a windfall. Nor should Congress deprive the taxpayers of an opportunity to win a case which the Justice Department feels can be won, thus saving millions of dollars. But the motion to delete this provision lost 174 to 222.

Michigan Republicans (Rep. Hoffman and Bennett were absent) voted to strike out the \$22.7 million refund. All Michigan Democrats except Rep. Diggs voted to pay \$22.7 million to the three sugar companies.

COUNTERFEIT RECORDS: Passed unanimously last Monday under Consent Calendar proceedings was H.R. 11793, a bill making it a federal offense to ship counterfeit phonograph records from one state to another. The Committee on the Judiciary reported that over \$20 million worth of counterfeit records were sold in 1960. The counterfeiter obtains a legitimate phonograph record of a popular song or arrangement manufactured by a reputable concern. He makes copies of the recording and the label and sells these counterfeits as the genuine product of the manufacturer whose label he has appropriated. This means that the consumer may purchase a mechanically imperfect product even though he selects a well-known and reputable brand name.

The House has endorsed the judgment of its Committee on the Judiciary that present state laws against this reprehensible practice are not adequate. If H.R. 11793 becomes law, the power of the Federal Government may be used against those who knowingly and with fraudulent intent transport or sell counterfeit records in interstate commerce.

NO TIN IN PENNIES: If legislation recommended by the House Committee on Banking and Currency becomes law the last traces of tin will disappear from our one-cent pieces. Present law specifies that our "pennies" be 95 percent copper and 5 percent tin and zinc. Originally these coins contained 4 percent tin and 1 percent zinc. Of late less and less tin has been used; to keep within the law, current one-cent pieces contain one-tenth of 1 percent tin.

During 1961 the U.S. Mint produced about 2.5 billion one-cent pieces using about 17,200 pounds of tin. Tin presently costs \$1.16 a pound whereas zinc costs about 12¢. The elimination of tin from our "penny" would therefore save about \$18,000 annually in the manufacture of the one-cent piece. The requirement that tin be included in the alloy for the "penny" was based primarily upon the tradition that minor coins should be of bronze and that bronze consisted of copper and tin only. However today, many alloys designated as bronze contain no tin.





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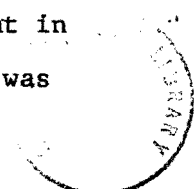
July 4, 1962

The controversial "Trade Expansion Act of 1962" was approved by the House of Representatives last Thursday by a vote of 299 to 125. While I supported the bill on final passage, I also voted to recommit the bill to Committee and extend the present law for another year. This motion was defeated 171 to 253. Under the closed or "gag" rule proceedings this was the only practical way I could express my strong dissatisfaction with certain provisions of the bill and at the same time endorse the principles of, and the overall policy relating to, our reciprocal trade program. Had the recommittal motion prevailed, we would have had the opportunity before final enactment to remedy some of the weaknesses in the bill. But when this failed, and the issue was between the trade bill at hand or none at all, I supported the bill in principle if not in specifics.

**EXTENDING THE LAW ON DEFENSE PRODUCTION:** Because the Defense Production Act expired on June 30, it was necessary to extend the Act which helps to insure that critical defense materials will be available on an equitable basis to contractors and subcontractors, and which assists contractors in securing working capital and equipment for production to keep pace with new developments in weapons systems. A majority of the Committee on Banking and Currency recommended an extension of the Act plus five amendments which would have drastically revised the existing law. All Republican members of the Committee objected vigorously to the amendments and proposed a simple extension of the Act.

When the bill reached the floor of the House of Representatives last Monday, the Democratic Chairman immediately sought permission to withdraw all the amendments. This was done and the bill passed 327 to 0.

Among other things these unsound amendments would have permitted sales of our surplus minerals and metals on the foreign market at a price lower than they could be sold in the U. S., would have initiated another back-door financing scheme and further distorted the cost of the program by disregarding the interest charges, and would have given Fidel Castro a propaganda weapon by writing off the U. S. investment in the Nicaro Nickel Plant in Cuba as a "nonrecoverable expense." The Republican Committee members said, "Instead of the Congress giving tacit approval of this highjacking action by the government of Cuba, the Congress should make crystal clear that although temporarily the plant may be in the custody of the Government of Cuba, that Government will be held strictly accountable for this investment of the United States in that nickel plant in Cuba." Fortunately the Republican position prevailed and none of the amendments was adopted.



**EXTENDING THE LAW ON EXPORT CONTROLS:** The Export Control Act, also scheduled to expire last Saturday, would be extended for three years if H. R. 11309, approved by the House on June 25th, becomes law. This Act provides for the regulation and control of U. S. exports moving directly or indirectly to the Sino-Soviet bloc or to other unfriendly nations. The principal controls at present consist of (1) an embargo on exports to Communist China, North Korea, and North Vietnam; (2) an embargo on exports to Cuba of everything except unsubsidized foodstuffs, medicines, and certain medical supplies; (3) broad and stringent controls over exports to the USSR and its European satellites; (4) limited reductions on certain military items to the Congo, and (5) limited controls over exports to the free world in order to protect against diversion or trans-shipment of goods to the Soviet bloc.

In addition to extending the Act, H. R. 11309 contains amendments to strengthen the enforcement of the law. The bill passed the House by a vote of 339 to 0.

**VACCINATION ASSISTANCE ACT:** By a voice vote the House passed H. R. 10541, a bill authorizing the appropriation of \$36 million during the next three years to carry out a mass immunization program against polio, diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus. While there was little objection to the general purpose of the legislation, i.e., to immunize practically all susceptible persons in the community and particularly children under 5 years of age, discussion in the "Congressional Record" ran to 15 pages. Some members contended that there is doubt as to the present need of the legislation, that the \$36 million was insufficient for any significant mass program, that states should provide matching funds, and that the Federal Government should supply the vaccine but not pay local and state employees to promote and administer the program. But in the end approval was given without a recorded vote.

**PRAYER IN SCHOOL:** The "Congressional Record" for the past week has been replete with comments relative to the Supreme Court's decision on the use of a voluntary non-sectarian prayer in the public schools. Many members of Congress, both Democrats and Republicans, expressed vigorous disagreement with the position taken by six members of the Court. Legislation has been introduced to overrule this decision by an amendment to the Constitution.

I will support legislation, requiring a 2/3 vote in each house of Congress, to permit the people of the United States to pass on this important issue through their state legislatures or by means of specially elected state conventions. Favorable action by 3/4 of the states can amend the Constitution to overrule the Supreme Court. This is the constitutional means by which the people of the United States may exercise their sovereignty. I would vote to give them that opportunity.

Personally I was favorably impressed with the dissenting opinion of Justice Potter Stewart who wrote, "I think the Court has misapplied a great constitutional principle." After citing numerous reasons for upholding the New York law, Justice Stewart summarized the matter by quoting a statement of the Court enunciated only ten years ago: "We are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being."



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**JERRY FORD**



July 11, 1962

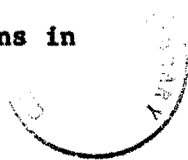
The House of Representatives met Saturday afternoon, June 30th, and was again in session from noon until 7:38 p.m. the following Monday largely because of the necessity of continuing legislation due to expire on the last day of June. The most important and controversial issue involved the Sugar Act and specifically the distribution of the quota formerly assigned to Cuba.

The Senate's version of the bill varied considerably from that of the House. A Conference Committee composed of Representatives and Senators worked out a compromise. On Saturday afternoon this Conference Report was accepted by the House by a vote of 248 to 31. The Senate was not in session on Saturday and did not approve the Conference Report until Monday evening. Because of extended debate in the Senate, the House recessed for about two hours Monday evening (rather than adjourning) in case the Senate rejected the Conference Report and further compromise was necessary. But the Senate agreed, and the House adjourned three minutes after it reconvened following the recess.

On Monday the House also voted 293 to 5 to extend the present law providing for a 55 percent limit on the federal subsidy for cargo ship construction and conversion with a 60 percent limit for passenger ships. Under this legislation the Government assists in the construction and refurbishing of cargo and passenger ships by supplying funds to meet a percentage of the difference in costs between the U. S. and foreign shipbuilders.

By a vote of 281 to 14 the House also approved a bill to authorize an increase in the appropriation for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands from \$7.5 million to \$17.5 million. The lower figure was established in 1954 and since then there have been significant developments among the 78,000 inhabitants of the 96 island groups comprising the Marshall, Caroline, and Mariana Islands (except Guam) over which the U. S. has trusteeship. The Committee handling the bill pointed out that while substantial progress had been made, it is becoming necessary to rebuild worn out utilities, docks, air strips, hospitals, and schools. The \$17.5 million per year is an authorization limit only. The final amount will be determined by the appropriation process.

**RADIO LEGISLATION:** Two measures relating to radio broadcasting were passed by the House last Monday. The first would authorize daytime radio stations located in areas not served by full-time stations to begin broadcasting at least by 6:00 a.m. instead of at sunrise only. Some daytime stations in such areas should begin as early as 4:00 a.m. With special permission from the Federal Communications Commission, daytime stations in



areas served by full-time stations may, under this bill, begin their broadcast day before sunrise if they cause no harmful interference to other stations.

Because under normal circumstances radio waves travel farther at night than in the daytime, greater interference by one station with another occurs at night. To provide ample local radio service while keeping interference at a minimum, FCC grants some radio station licenses for daytime (sunrise to sunset) broadcasting only. About one-half of the 3,400 standard broadcast stations licensed by FCC are authorized for daytime only. This means that about 50 percent of the radio stations have a variable broadcast day and some may lose four to six hours per day during the winter season.

Many daytime stations asked for set hours such as 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. but the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce which recommended the bill (H. R. 4749) compromised by authorizing only presunrise operation. The Committee was impressed with the arguments in favor of providing an adequate local early morning radio service in small communities and rural areas. It also was convinced that there would be less interference in the pre-sunrise hours than in the evening.

More controversial was H. Res. 714, a measure expressing "the sense of the House of Representatives" that the FCC could authorize the "clear-channel" stations to use power greater than the 50 kilowatts presently permitted. In this Resolution the intention is to provide adequate night-time radio service to all Americans from powerful clear-channel, metropolitan stations. Presently there are 25 class I-A clear-channel stations in the U. S. Rep. John Bennett of Michigan, senior minority member of the Committee reporting the bill said that to increase the power of some of these stations "will do considerable good for millions of people whose only night-time radio service is from the clear-channel stations."

This Resolution does not have the force of law and the final decision in any given request for additional broadcasting power will rest with the FCC. It is not the intention of the House to promote radio interference but rather to provide more radio coverage in those areas not adequately served at present. I voted for the Resolution which passed 198 to 87.

**COST OF FREEDOM RISES:** The House has also approved a bill to increase from \$30 to \$100 the amount which may be provided by the government to federal prisoners discharged from custody or released on parole. Approval was requested by the Attorney General who stated that the purpose of the gratuity is to enable the released prisoner to support himself until he receives his first pay from a job, and that the present \$30 maximum, established in 1944 is inadequate.

Gratuities are not fixed nor automatic. Each case is considered individually according to need. In 1961 only 8,701 of the 16,727 prisoners released were paid gratuities totaling \$163,785. This is an average of less than \$10 per released prisoner and less than \$20 per released prisoner receiving a gratuity. The Department of Justice says no additional appropriation will be requested to pay the larger gratuity in 1963.





# Your Washington Review

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Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



July 18, 1962

An authorization bill of \$3.6 billion for the mutual security program was approved by the House of Representatives last Thursday by a vote of 250 to 164. The final dollar amount to be appropriated for this program will, however, be determined following hearings and action by the Committee on Appropriations and further approval by the Congress.

Because I am convinced that basically our mutual security program contributes to our own national defense and to the security of the free world, I voted with the majority on the authorization bill.

One of the major items of discussion during three days of debate concerned aid to Poland and Yugoslavia and other Communist-dominated nations. The Administration wanted authority to provide some economic assistance (not military aid) to certain of these countries. The Senate recently restricted such assistance to surplus agricultural products. The House gave the President discretionary authority to provide assistance to these countries but only when the President determines and reports to Congress that (1) such assistance is vital to the security of the U. S., (2) the recipient country is not controlled by the international Communist conspiracy, and (3) the U. S. aid will help promote that country's independence from international Communism.

**NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED VETERANS' PENSION:** Rep. Olin Teague, Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, has announced that about August 1st his committee will conduct public hearings on the operation of the non-service-connected pension programs of the Veterans Administration. Hearings were held on the same subject in July 1961 at which time the staff of the committee was directed to make a thorough study of these programs. These studies are about completed.

Furthermore, one bill before the committee, H. R. 3745, is the subject of a discharge petition which by a recent count contained the names of 201 members of the House. If 219 members sign this petition, it will be in order for the House of Representatives to take up H. R. 3745 without further action by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs or the Committee on Rules. To date the Committee on Veterans' Affairs which has initial jurisdiction over the bill has refused to report it to the House for consideration.

H. R. 3745, and many similar bills, would grant a tax-free pension of \$102.37 per month to those who served at least 90 days in the armed forces during World War I. There is no requirement that the veteran be disabled in any degree, nor that he be unemployable. There is an income limitation of \$2,400 for a single veteran and \$3,600 for a married man BUT social security benefits and income from railroad retirement and any other public or private annuity or pension plans would not be counted as income.

Rep. Teague has made the following observations relative to H. R. 3745:

(1) At the present time a non-service-connected pension is available to a 65-year-old married veteran with an income of \$3,000 or less and to a single veteran with an income of less than \$1,800.

(2) By 1963, half of the 2,400,000 living World War I veterans will be receiving pensions under present law. During this fiscal year an average of 1,090,200 World War I

veterans and 483,900 widows of World War I veterans will receive non-service-connected pensions. Under current law, World War I pension rolls show a net increase of 8,600 persons per month.

(3) During the past fiscal year the VA distributed about \$1.3 billion in non-service-connected pensions to veterans of World War I.

(4) The adoption of H.R. 3745 will cost the taxpayers an additional \$942 million during its first year. The first five years of operation under the proposed law will cost an additional \$4.3 billion with the total additional cost by the year 2000 equalling \$11.6 billion.

(5) Three-fourths of this expenditure would go to add veterans in the upper income brackets to the pension rolls. Only  $\frac{1}{4}$  would help veterans in the lower income brackets who need financial help the most.

(6) H. R. 3745 would result in several hundred thousand World War I veterans, many with short periods of service and substantial resources of their own, receiving the same amount of assistance as is received by a 50 percent service-connected disabled veteran.

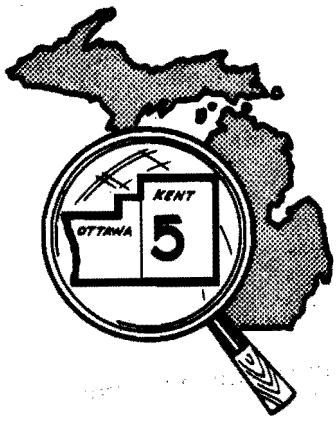
(7) The American Legion and AMVETS are opposed to H. R. 3745. The VFW and DAV are not supporting the bill.

(8) President Kennedy and his Administrator of Veterans Affairs are against this legislation as were President Eisenhower and his administration.

Chairman Teague states that for these reasons his committee has agreed not to take affirmative action on H. R. 3745. But at this writing only 18 more names are needed on the discharge petition.

**FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ON THE INCREASE:** The latest Report of Senator Byrd's Joint Congressional Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures lists 2,461,534 civilian employees in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government during May of this year. When the Kennedy Administration took over in January 1961 the number of employees was 2,352,837. This means that during the first 16 months of the Kennedy Administration 108,697 persons have been added to the civilian payroll in the Executive Branch of the government controlled by the President. This also means an average increase in the civilian payroll of 6,793 persons for every month of the Kennedy regime.

To keep the record straight it must be pointed out that President Eisenhower ended his term of office with 201,473 fewer civilian employees than were on the payroll when he was inaugurated. The same Joint Committee reports that in January 1953 there were 2,554,310 civilian employees in the Executive Branch but that by January 1961 this number had been cut to 2,352,837.



# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



July 25, 1962

Two votes in the House of Representatives last week put the brakes on the current trend toward greater concentration of power in the Federal Government and specifically in the Executive Branch.

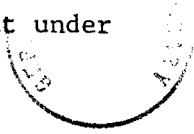
By a vote of 202 to 200 the House refused to grant the Attorney General the power to demand confidential records of any business concern he might want to investigate in connection with a possible antitrust violation, and then to pass on the seized documents to other government agencies for any purpose. Rep. Meader of Michigan, a former State prosecutor and member of the Committee on Judiciary, told the House, "This power would vest in a political officer of the government the power of search and seizure without a warrant except his own, and subject the most intimate and confidential details of business operations in this country to the prying eyes of a powerful bureaucracy." I voted with the majority to deny the Attorney General this new authority.

A major issue in the debate on the Highway Act of 1962 involved a proposal to grant to the Secretary of Commerce the sole power to decide whether the method followed by each State for the relocation of families on highway rights-of-way is satisfactory to him. By a vote of 236 to 159, the bill was amended to remove this power from one appointed official and to leave the matter with the states with the provision only that advisory assistance be supplied all families to be relocated. The House agreed that the Secretary of Commerce is not to have the authority to determine whether "feasible methods" for relocation are provided. Had this action not been taken, the Secretary of Commerce could have refused federal highway funds to states which did not satisfy his definition of "feasible methods."

SUGAR, HONEYBEES, AND \$17 million: Three days after the Senate gave final approval to the Sugar Act Amendments of 1963, it amended a House-approved bill relating to the importation of honeybees in order to make changes in the sugar law it had just passed. The changes were not improvements. I voted against agreeing to the Senate amendments but we lost 196 to 142.

There is untold confusion in this sugar legislation; the influence of too many lobbyists is evident; poor planning and a lack of direction are obvious, and I have grave doubts that the best interests of the U. S. were served by the adoption of the "sugar-honeybee bill."

One provision of the latest sugar bill grants permission for importing sugar from Ireland, a country which itself must buy sugar abroad to supply its own needs. But under



this new bill, Ireland can buy sugar from Communist Cuba and sell it to us. This is indefensible on many grounds but especially when our own domestic beet and cane sugar growers would welcome an increased quota.

Furthermore, this latest sugar bill, requested by President Kennedy, will cost the American consumer and U. S. Treasury \$17.5 million to benefit the sugar producers and processors in Argentina and the Dominican Republic. The "sugar-honeybee" bill took 375,000 tons of sugar in the next 2½ years out of the world price quota and put it under the subsidized quota to be assigned to these two Latin-American countries. This means that \$17.5 million collected in import fees on sugar (and ultimately paid by the American consumer in higher prices) is to be transferred from the U. S. Treasury to sugar interests in Argentina and the Dominican Republics. For obvious reasons I voted against this legislation.

This brief summary demonstrates some of the complexities of our sugar legislation and points up the pressing need for a thorough examination and revision of our sugar policies.

ANOTHER FARM BILL: By a vote of 229 to 163 last Thursday the House approved a watered down, yet thoroughly objectional, farm bill. This bill, H. R. 12391, contained only 39 pages compared with 89 pages in the bill recently rejected by the House and 106 pages for the Administration's proposal as originally introduced. Yet the approach is the same: bureaucratic control of agriculture, huge costs to the federal taxpayer, little consideration to the consumer. In fact, this bill contained provisions recently rejected by the Administration as too costly and ineffective.

Furthermore, when the House had an opportunity to improve the bill as far as Michigan is concerned, it refused to do so. Michigan grows soft red and soft white winter wheat which are not in surplus. The wheat accounting for 93 percent of that accumulated by the government as surplus over the past decade is hard red winter wheat, not produced in Michigan.

However, the House voted down an amendment which would have given the Secretary of Agriculture the right to exempt classes of wheat if he found they are in short supply. The Secretary could have increased acreage allotments for farms producing wheat not in surplus to an extent which would insure an ample supply of that kind of wheat. This would have been an improvement in the law. Michigan wheat not in surplus would not have been subjected to the same rules as wheat creating the enormous over-supply. But this common-sense amendment was rejected.

I voted against the bill for the reasons given above and because there is no absolute need for any farm legislation this year. The law currently on the statute books will take us through another year.





# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



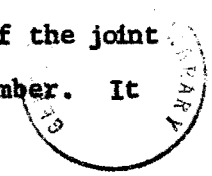
August 1, 1962

Appropriations bills are again flowing through the House of Representatives. From April 18th when it passed the defense appropriation bill until June 26th when it approved the money bill for the District of Columbia, the House considered no appropriation bills. This was true in spite of the fact that all government departments and agencies begin their fiscal year on July 1 and theoretically all appropriations bills should be signed by the President by that date. This year only a minor supplemental appropriation for the Veterans Administration and the bill authorizing "continuing appropriations" were signed by July 1.

Because no bills providing money to operate the government in fiscal 1963 had become law on July 1, the Congress passed a temporary resolution to provide the funds. This resolution authorizes the continuation of existing projects and activities of the department or agency at the lowest of three different rates of expenditure; 1) that of the past fiscal year; 2) the budgetary request of the new year if no action has been taken by either House, or 3) the lower amount for the new year adopted by either of the two Houses.

The major cause of the hold-up on appropriation bills this session was a dispute between the House and Senate Committees which seemed to involve procedural matters but actually concerned basic issues of fiscal responsibility. Traditionally, conference committees, composed of Representatives and Senators, appointed to iron out the differences in House and Senate versions of a given appropriation bill, met on the Senate side of the Capitol with a Senator acting as chairman. The House Committee felt that a Senator should not always be chairman of the joint House-Senate conference and in addition the conferences should be held in a neutral location rather than always on the Senate side of the Capitol.

While on the surface this controversy seemed insignificant, one has only to look at the record to see what has been happening on appropriation bills and how a basic issue was involved. During the past 10 years the Senate has raised the appropriation bills above the amount approved by the House by about \$32 billion. During that period the Senate conferees with a Senate chairman have been able to retain \$22 billion out of the \$32 billion in increases added by the Senate. The members of the House committee strongly felt that with a member of the House acting as conference chairman at least half the time there would be a better opportunity to hold the lid on federal spending. After extensive negotiations by a special committee a new arrangement was worked out which is believed will result in greater influence for economy. Under the new plan the chairmen of the House and Senate subcommittees handling each of the 13 regular appropriation bills in conference will decide who will be chairman. So far under the new arrangement there has been an equitable sharing of the joint conference committee chairmanship and conferees meet in the Old Supreme Court chamber. It is the consensus the new arrangements are working well.



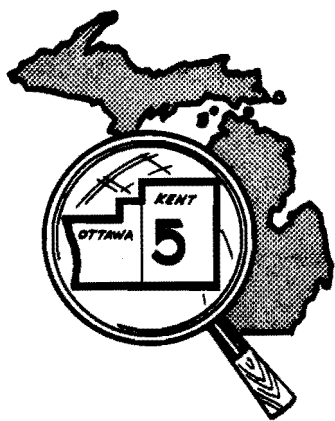
APPROPRIATIONS IN THE PAST WEEK: During the past week the House approved the work of conference committees on the Second Supplemental Appropriations bill (\$373 million), the bill for Treasury, Post Office, and the Executive Offices (\$5.4 billion) and that for the Department of Defense (\$48.1 billion). I served as one of the conferees on the Defense bill. We were able to resolve our differences with the Senate in a single four-hour session on Wednesday afternoon.

The House also gave initial approval last week to the money bill for the Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, and the Judiciary. The bill makes available \$1.7 billion to these departments in fiscal 1963. This is \$139 million more than last year but \$102 million less than requested by the President.

A bill appropriating \$5.9 billion for the Department of Agriculture was passed by a vote of 345 to 41. Cuts made in various projects resulted in a net reduction of \$507 million over last year and the appropriation of \$877 million less than requested. Notwithstanding this, I voted against the bill. The bill supplies funds for a number of programs which ought to be curtailed or eliminated. The House by a vote of 118 to 172 refused to write into the bill restrictions against the expenditure of tax money for propaganda purposes "designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the Congress in violation of present law." (This was aimed at the type of lobbying by federal employees encouraged by the President and Secretary in behalf of the Administration's farm bill.) But basically I could not approve funds to be spent by a Secretary of Agriculture who has been so obviously negligent in handling the Billie Sol Estes case.

ON THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF CENSUS INFORMATION: This week the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service is holding public hearings on a number of bills (including H.R. 10205 which I introduced on February 15th and described in my newsletter of February 21st) to overrule a Supreme Court decision involving the confidential nature of information supplied to the Census Bureau by individuals or businesses. Last winter the Court ruled that while the original report given to the Census Bureau was confidential and could not be used by the government for "taxation, investigation or regulation" as stated on the Census forms, this immunity does not apply to copies retained by the individual or business. The Court said that copies of the confidential Census information in the files of the person reporting could be subpoenaed by other agencies of the government and used for investigative and regulative purposes.

Because this appears to violate a promise by the government as well as common sense, six bills have been introduced to protect the copies as well as the originals from being used for any other than Census purposes. I have introduced this legislation because I agree with the three justices who in dissenting from the judgment of the Court said, "It is no less good morals and good law that the government should turn square corners in dealing with the people than that the people should turn square corners in dealing with their government."



# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



August 8, 1962

We are now in the eighth month of this session of Congress and are beginning to lay out a schedule of activities for our stay at home this fall. The slow pace of the Congress all year and the paralysis which has gripped the Senate recently may upset the best laid plans to meet with many groups in Kent and Ottawa Counties and to visit 21 communities with my mobile office.

I am accepting speaking engagements for September, October, and November and sincerely hope that I will be able to be at home to fulfill these obligations. We expect to begin our eighth annual mobile office tour about the middle of September and to run through October. The tour will start as planned and be carried out provided the Congress is not held in Washington beyond a reasonable adjournment date.

According to Monday's official "Calendars of the U. S. House of Representatives" only three major legislation bills of this session have become law. Not one regular appropriation bill has cleared the President's desk. This is not to say that no significant legislation has been enacted. In fact according to the Congressional Record, through July 31st the House had acted on 673 measures of one type or another. Neither do I suggest that a Congress should be judged primarily by the number of major bills it passes. In many instances the refusal to act affirmatively on legislative proposals is a constructive action; to decide not to do something may be a major accomplishment. But this session of Congress can hardly be found "distinguished" by any criteria.

All constructive activity ceased in the Senate for a week while a handful of so-called "liberals" destroyed that body's effectiveness by a needless filibuster. This should seem strange indeed to those liberals who denounce any use of the filibuster by conservatives or moderates as undemocratic, wasteful, and illustrative of a lack of faith in the elected representatives of the people. But when it suits their own purposes, the "liberals" can be just as dogmatic, obstinate, and ruthless as any group they may condemn.

One can argue that extended debate, even a filibuster, may serve a good purpose when it informs the public on the great issues involved in the subject under consideration. There are times when a final decision should be postponed until an informed public opinion can make itself felt in the Congress. But such is not the case in the Senate debate on H. R. 11040, a bill providing for a private communications satellite system (Telstar) under federal regulation. President Kennedy recommends and endorses the



legislation; the House passed the bill on May 3rd by a vote of 354 to 74. I voted for the bill because it favors the typical American free-enterprise approach. The "liberal" filibusters want the government (this is pure Socialism) rather than private enterprise to construct and operate Telstar.

**APPROPRIATIONS BILLS CONTINUE TO MOVE:** During the past week the House approved an \$11.5 billion appropriation bill for the Independent Offices. This was a reduction of \$1 billion from the amount requested by the President. The two major items were \$5.2 billion for the Veterans Administration and \$3.6 billion for the National Aeronautics and Space Agency.

A Conference Report (final version of a bill) was approved providing \$885 million for the Department of Interior and related agencies in fiscal 1963. This final figure was \$16.7 million above the House version of the bill, \$37.1 million below the Senate version, \$47.3 million below the President's request, but \$90 million above last year's appropriation.

Also passed was the Conference Report providing \$5.3 billion for the Departments of Labor, and Health, Education, and Welfare, and related agencies. A similar pattern prevailed with the final amount being \$163.8 million above the House figure, \$46.3 million below the Senate version, \$51.7 below the Kennedy request, but \$155 million above last year's appropriation.

**FUNDS FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH:** In consideration of the Conference Report on funds for HEW, a special problem arose and a roll call vote developed. President Kennedy had requested \$780 million for the National Institutes of Health (seven in number: cancer, heart, allergy and infectious diseases, arthritis and metabolic diseases, dental, mental health, neurological diseases and blindness). The bill as passed by the House, which I supported, increased the amount by \$60 million, providing NIH \$840 million. The conferees compromised at \$880 million or \$40 million more than the House proposed and \$100 million above President Kennedy's request.

Last year NIH was granted \$733 million but was unable to spend \$73 million of its appropriation. Try as the Institutes did, they could not dispose of the final \$73 million of last year's funds. Yet this year the Congress is making available to them about \$175 million more than they were able to dispose of last year.

In view of all this I voted for a motion which would have set the funds for NIH at the original House figure of \$840 million, an increase of \$102 million over last year and \$60 million more than asked by President Kennedy. But the motion lost 173 to 214. NIH will get \$880 million in the Labor-HEW appropriation bill which I then supported on final passage.

**FEDERAL EMPLOYEES UP 35,000 IN ONE MONTH:** The New Frontier added 34,921 civilian employees to the payroll in the executive branch of the government during the month of June. This is over five times the normal rate at which the federal bureaucracy has been growing since Mr. Kennedy became President. As I reported three weeks ago, there has been an average monthly increase in federal civilian employment of 6,793 persons for each month of the Kennedy regime. But June's record of 34,921 additions is a new high. According to Senator Byrd's Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures, which supplied the above facts, over 143, 600 civilians have been added to the payroll in the executive branch of the government during the first 17 months of the Kennedy Administration.





# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**

August 15, 1962



The House Committee on Foreign Affairs has recommended that the United States purchase United Nations bonds only to the extent of matching the total purchases of all other nations. To date this would amount to \$27.4 million.

The Committee was acting on the request of President Kennedy that the United States take \$100 million worth of a \$200 million UN bond issue. On April 5th the Senate voted to authorize the purchase of \$25 million worth of bonds without matching by other countries with additional bond purchases on a matching basis. The House Committee eliminated the provision for the unmatched \$25 million. If passed by the House in this or similar form, the bill will go to conference. But it is evident that the request of the Kennedy Administration for authority to purchase outright \$100 million worth of UN bonds without any limitations will not be granted. My decision on this legislation will be based on whether or not the Congress approves certain amendments that are absolutely essential to protect the interest of the U. S. Unfortunately the State Department in the New Frontier wants a "blank check." I do not believe a "blank check" with Adlai Stevenson as our top delegate to the UN is the way to preserve and strengthen this organization.

**WITH THE COMMITTEES:** The Committee on Ways and Means has been conducting intensive hearings "on the status of the U. S. economy." The Committee is primarily interested in determining whether there is a need and/or justification for a substantial tax cut. Its hearings are also to demonstrate how well the New Frontiersmen have got "the country moving." Recent events would indicate that not only the rate of speed of any such "movement" but the direction as well needs careful review. Evidence to date would indicate that the "big promises" during the 1960 election are not coming true.

The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service has approved a bill increasing Federal salaries for Civil Service and postal employees from about 10 to 15 percent depending on varying circumstances. Adopting the bill will cost the Treasury over a billion dollars a year. Until the Committee report is finished we will not have a complete explanation of all its details. The Committee staff continues to work on the report but with a highly technical bill containing some 68 pages, its task is not an easy one. In view of the opposition expressed to the bill (H. R. 9531 as amended) by the Kennedy Administration it is extremely questionable whether the bill in its present form can become law. Should both houses of Congress act favorably, the President may very well veto the bill.



The Committee on Veterans Affairs has been conducting hearings on the present non-service connected pension programs for veterans. This action was generated by the demands for Committee approval of H. R. 3745 and similar bills which will provide a non-service connected pension of over \$102 a month to veterans of World War I over 65 years old who have a limited income exclusive of any retirement or other pension benefits. A discharge petition, requiring 219 names of House members, to bypass the Committee and bring the bill directly to the House floor for consideration now contains 199 names. This is less than previously reported because some members have withdrawn their names.

Last Thursday the Committee on Rules voted to send H. R. 10113, the "Public Works Coordination and Acceleration Act" to the House floor for four hours of debate and made it in order to propose amendments. This legislation had been recommended by a majority of the Committee on Public Works on June 2nd but the Rules Committee had to clear it for action by the House. Thirteen of the 14 minority members of the Public Works Committee voted against this bill which as they said would "give the President a book of blank checks with authority to draw \$900 million from the Treasury of the United States and to use such amounts thereof as he decides for the construction of projects he selects in localities of his choosing."

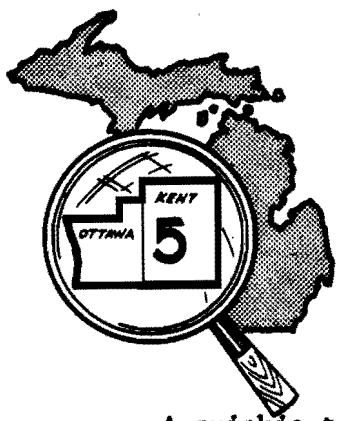
The bill gives the President authority to spend nearly a billion dollars of tax money on all kinds of public works projects without further congressional approval and without suggesting any new or additional sources of revenue. This bill is another request by President Kennedy for the transfer of power from the elected representatives of the people in Congress to the appointed bureaucrats in the executive branch of the government. I believe that expenditure of tax funds must be carefully controlled by those who go to the voters and the taxpayers for endorsement every two years.

A subcommittee of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service has completed its public hearings on legislation to protect the confidentiality of copies of census reports which I discussed two weeks ago. It hopes to report the bill favorably to the full committee this week. You may recall I am a sponsor of this legislation.

**SAM RAYBURN STAMP:** A commemorative stamp honoring Sam Rayburn will go on sale at the former Speaker's hometown of Bonham, Texas on September 16th. The Rayburn Foundation will issue a First Day Cover on quality paper and probably showing a sketch of the Rayburn home and library. These covers may be ordered for 25¢ each from the Bonham Chamber of Commerce.

Anyone sending a self-addressed envelope and 4 cents to the Postmaster at Bonham will get his envelope back with a Rayburn stamp and the cancellation note: "First Day of Issue." Either type of "cover" may be ordered in quantity at the prices given.

Normally I do not mention commemorative stamp sales in the newsletter but any stamp honoring Sam Rayburn, who served as Speaker of the House more than twice as long as any other person, deserves special comment. The stamp is being issued at Bonham on September 16, although it is Sunday, as that date marks the 22nd anniversary of his first election as Speaker on September 16, 1940. The stamp will go on sale throughout the country on Monday, September 17th.



# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



August 22, 1962

A quickie tax cut allegedly to spur the national economy has been set aside provisionally. Federal tax reform based on "logic and equity" has been promised for next year. The New Frontier hasn't actually been able to "get the country moving" but we are not as bad off as we could be or as we may be. If conditions do get worse before the first of the year, the quickie tax cut will be tried but government spending will go on. Such was the thrust of President Kennedy's political speech to a nation-wide TV audience last Monday evening.

I am sure that all of us who value a stable and vigorous economic system and who expect our government to pursue a sound and responsible fiscal policy were relieved to know that for the present at least the Chief Executive is looking at economic fact and away from Keynesian theories. This is a good step in the right direction and a giant stride away from the contentions in the President's speech at Yale on economic and fiscal myths.

Those who are advocating a quickie tax cut in the amount of about \$10 billion contend it will give the economy a needed shot in the arm. We are told that the \$10 billion to be released will increase consumer purchasing power and stimulate business investments; the money will be spent for goods and services and for new plants or machinery. High demand will encourage greater production and then all or most of our employment problems will be solved. Sounds wonderful! Why not try it?

Well, if the program is to work you must continue government spending at present or higher levels, you must pay the \$9 billion annual interest charges on the current \$300 billion national debt, and you must sell \$10 billion worth of government bonds to replace the \$10 billion lost in revenue by the quickie tax cut. If these bonds are sold (and it will be a sorry day when Uncle Sam can't sell his bonds) they will absorb out of the private economy the \$10 billion supposedly pumped into it by the tax cut. If the theory is to work at all, there must be about \$94 billion expended out of the U. S. Treasury this current year. Whether this amount is brought into the Treasury by the collection of taxes or the sale of bonds, it is still \$94 billion removed from the private economy. A quickie tax cut means only that Uncle Sam borrows money to replace tax revenue. And borrowed money becomes debt on which interest must be paid. Really, a quickie tax cut doesn't make much sense.

All of which means that any substantial federal tax cut must be accompanied by an equal or greater reduction in federal expenditures. This can be done and should be done.



President Kennedy was 100% correct when he said "Our tax rates, in short, are so high as to weaken the very essence of the progress of a free society, the incentive for additional return for additional effort." If he and his administration will assume the leadership for constructive economy, we can have tax reduction, a balanced budget, and a sound dollar. This means that the Kennedy Administration must discard its theories that every problem can be solved by increasing federal expenditures and that as a nation we can spend ourselves out of debt.

Unfortunately the record of the New Frontier in this area is not encouraging. During the first complete fiscal year of the Kennedy Administration (July 1, 1961 - June 30, 1962) expenditures were up \$6.2 billion (to 87.7 billion) over the previous year. Indications are that spending this year will exceed \$94 billion for another \$6.3 billion increase. If more of the spending programs advocated by President Kennedy had been approved or are passed by the Congress, the deficit will run to more billions.

**TAX REFORM:** Having discarded the quickie tax cut at least temporarily, Mr. Kennedy stated that a bill will be presented to Congress for action next year to provide "an across-the-board, top-to-bottom cut in both corporate and personal income taxes. It will include long-needed tax reform that logic and equity demand." With these objectives we have no quarrel. We should remind ourselves, however, that the only two times tax reductions have been enacted since World War II have been in Republican-controlled Congresses, the 80th and the 83rd. And any reductions in revenue must be accompanied by cuts in expenditures lest we compound and multiply our difficulties. Furthermore, it is no easy task to determine which tax changes are logical and equitable. A member of the Committee on Ways and Means who has spent years studying our tax structure remarked recently, "One man's loophole is another man's equity."

**IN THE CHAMBER:** Except for various minor bills, the only legislation handled by the House last week was two appropriations bills. The usual pattern prevailed. The \$1.3 billion Military Construction bill was \$225 million under the President's request but \$418 million over last year's appropriation. This money goes for the construction, modernization, and repair of military installations. Air Force bases in Michigan located at Sault St. Marie, Marquette, Mt. Clemens, and Oscoda are allocated a total of \$3,373,000.

The \$4.6 billion Public Works appropriation bill was \$129 million under the President's request but \$675 million over last year's allocation. A little over \$1.9 million of the total amount is designated for work on rivers and harbors or flood control in or about Michigan.

**EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON?** Last week two very impressive looking Washington Metropolitan Police officers marched into my office in their most dignified and businesslike manner. After reassuring the staff, some of whom were frantically searching their memories for any possible traffic misdemeanors, they asked my assistance in recruiting young men between the ages of 21 to 28 from my Congressional District who might be interested in joining them in their efforts to eliminate crime in Washington. The Department plans to employ approximately 100 additional policemen by the first of the year. Any one who is interested may write me at 351 House Office Building and complete information and application forms will be sent.





# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**

August 29, 1962



Every summer several collegians have worked in our Washington Congressional Office. My staff and I have thoroughly enjoyed these energetic young folks who do extremely well learning the practicalities of our federal government.

Miss June Ryan has worked with us this summer. June, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John A. Ryan, 1707 Wealthy Street, Grand Rapids, is a political science major at Duke University but will be attending the University of Geneva this coming year. I asked her to write the newsletter this week.

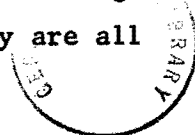
To work in Washington has been my ambition since late last summer when I read an article on Washington's summer interns in the NEW YORK TIMES. What an educational and interesting way for a political science student to spend the summer! I couldn't think of a better place to observe Washington politics and the workings of the government than a Congressman's office. Even a secretary doing routine work would soak up a lot of knowledge in three month's time. I took a deep breath and wrote Gerald R. Ford, Jr., my Congressman. Unbelievably, the job was mine!

I came to Washington expecting to be disillusioned, as everyone from professor to roommate said I would be. Happily, the tremendous waste I expected to encounter is nonexistent in Mr. Ford's office. This, apparently, is typical of a small, closely-supervised office, for many of my friends in Washington who work for larger agencies and bureaus have seen all too clearly the waste about which I was warned.

Disillusionment came in the first few weeks, however, when I was appalled by the partisan politics used by far too many legislators and executives. One learns in time to accept this element, for in Washington, politics is a way of life and often holds the key to getting things done. Certainly, partisanship is expected by all and accepted by most. Compromise, however, is still the unspoken password in the serious and hard-fought game of politics. One learns that these men are neither bickering out of pettiness nor arguing out of stubbornness. They are, for the most part, sincerely dedicated to the principles in which they believe and the people for whom they act. Disillusionment soon turned to understanding.

My biggest surprise among many in Washington was the number and variety of projects that a Congressman and his staff will gladly undertake in behalf of a constituent, no matter how "uninfluential." The problems of veterans and prospective immigrants are quite typical, but the list is endless. The picture of the Congressman leading the bewildered citizen through the maze of government bureaucracy is extremely representative of the duties of our elected legislators. It is my impression that few citizens realize what a wealth of help and information they can receive by simply writing a letter to Washington.

There is no such thing as a routine day in the House Office Building. If a day should begin routinely, it is likely to be interrupted by events as exciting as a visit from Secretary of Defense McNamara or a committee hearing featuring John Glenn and Scott Carpenter. There are a few routine duties, however, and a share of these has fallen to me. My work day starts at eight. The opening of the morning mail calls forth a whole panorama of personalities from the Fifth District. Since people with problems are our specialty, heart-breaking letters are not rare. Others are angry, funny, appreciative, and informative. They are all answered promptly.



Tourists from home are always welcome. The Michiganites in the office are not only glad to hear news from home, but are also delighted by the tourists' observations of Washington. Our visitors come asking for the passes that are required for admittance to the House and Senate chambers and leave loaded down with sightseeing booklets, Jerry Ford postcards, pamphlets to help the kids in civics class, and a polaroid photograph of junior in the Congressman's chair, surrounded by a beaming family.

My work includes running errands, typing, writing an occasional article for the press, and bringing mailing lists up to date. Most of my day is spent on several projects that the busy regular staff could never find time to complete. Mr. Ford, a member of the appropriation subcommittees on Defense and Foreign Operations, has asked me to compile a history of the Foreign Aid and Defense Appropriations bills since he joined those committees ten years ago. This has been extremely interesting work, for I have learned first hand of the tortuous route a bill must take to become a law.

Mr. Ford is probably the busiest man I have ever seen. Brief case bulging, he arrives at the office between eight and nine o'clock every morning, reads the mail and newspapers, indicates to his administrative assistant the manner in which many of the letters should be answered, and then dashes off to a committee meeting at ten. Visitors to Washington who are disappointed in the near-empty House and Senate chambers should be directed to a committee meeting, where the real work of Congress is accomplished. In this day of specialization, Congressmen are no exception; through their committees, they each become very familiar with a limited phase of law-making and must depend on each others' advice to a great extent when it comes to voting. Once Mr. Ford leaves the office, he seldom returns before four-thirty or five o'clock to read over the outgoing mail and sign it. Congressman Ford's working day usually lasts until after six, especially as the end of the session draws near. Weekends are busy, too, since Mr. Ford frequently travels home to visit Kent and Ottawa Counties.

Perhaps the most enduring impression of my summer in Washington is a tremendous respect for the history of the United States--a respect I somehow never formed in any history class. In my wanderings through Statuary Hall in the Capitol Building, I have read the names on each and every statue, donated by the States as a tribute to their outstanding citizens. Although well-respected in their fields, these people were ordinary citizens, largely unknown to us. They are, however, the true foundations of America, for they fought for ideals in which they fervently believed and gave of themselves to a cause which they put above their own well-being. As I stand in the dim coolness of the Capitol's halls and peer into the immobile faces of our forefathers, I often wonder what they would think of today's Americans. It is my hope that we are fighting hard enough and giving enough of ourselves to merit their respect.



# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



September 5, 1962

The House of Representatives has approved the unnecessary, unsound, and wasteful "Public Works Coordination and Acceleration Act." A motion to kill the proposal by recommitting it to Committee which I supported was defeated 192 to 221.

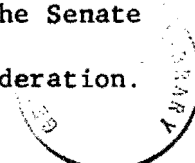
This bill, H. R. 10113, makes available to the President an additional \$900 million for use in supporting public works projects of various types except school construction. It is alleged that this power will be helpful as an anti-recession measure. The authorization is in the form of a blank check to appointed officials in the Executive Branch who can spend this public money without further approval of any project by the elected representatives of the people. Assistance can be rendered only to areas eligible under the Area Redevelopment Act (Kent and Ottawa Counties are NOT eligible) or to a community which has suffered 6 percent or more unemployment for 9 out of the past 12 months. But control of the distribution of the nearly \$1 billion rests exclusively with appointed officials in the Executive Branch who can and will use this power for purely political purposes.

Furthermore, the Administration has over \$2.5 billion already authorized by the Congress for sound non-political programs it has not used. Ample funds are available for economically justified housing and community assistance from such agencies as the Veterans Administration, Urban Renewal, Farmers Home Administration, and the Community Facilities Administration. In addition, on August 14th the Secretary of Commerce authorized the immediate release to the states of over \$1.9 billion in additional funds for highway construction in fiscal 1963. This is over and above the regular federal highway contribution for 1963 which will exceed \$3.7 billion.

As usual, the proponents of this new "blank check" \$900-million expenditure suggested no additional source of revenue. This means that the annual deficit and the national debt will be increased by \$900 million and interest costs for us and our children will be raised accordingly.

It is significant to note that a pro-Kennedy newspaper in Washington has said of this proposal that it has "the earmarks of economic ineffectiveness and political mischief." There is indeed little evidence to prove that public works construction has ever been effective as an anti-recession device.

A similar but not identical bill has been passed by the Senate. Unless the Senate now accepts the House version, the bills will go to conference for further consideration.



**ANTI-POLL TAX AMENDMENT:** The House completed congressional action on the proposed 24th amendment to the Constitution which would eliminate the payment of a poll tax as a requirement for voting for President, Vice President, U. S. Senators, and Representatives. I voted for the proposal which passed 294 to 86. While only five states still have the poll tax (Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, Virginia) and the Attorney General has stated that the same results could be accomplished by a simple statute, there can be little argument that a person should not have to pay for the privilege of voting. This amendment, if it is ratified by at least 38 states, will affect only the right to vote for U. S. officials. It will not apply to the qualifications for voting for state or local officers.

The last amendment to the Constitution, the 23rd, grants to residents of the District of Columbia the right to vote for Presidential electors (President and Vice President). This amendment was proposed on January 6, 1960 and became effective on April 3, 1961.

**OTHER YEA AND NAY VOTES:** The House last week also voted to authorize the appropriation of an additional \$100 million for direct loans for rental and cooperative housing for the elderly. Under this program long term, low-interest rate (currently 3½ percent) loans may be made to non-profit organizations and certain public agencies to provide housing for senior citizens. I voted for this authorization bill which was approved 367 to 6. It will help to expand a program already underway. According to the committee report, the Housing and Home Finance Agency has an interest in over 135 projects under this program. These projects represent over 14,000 units. Rental charges per housekeeping unit as of December ranged from \$48 to \$110 monthly, or a median of \$75. Where meals were included the costs averaged \$128 with a range from \$87 to \$150 per month.

I also voted to agree to the Senate amendments to the Communications Satellite bill (adopted 372-10), to require Federal Reserve Board approval of construction of branches of Federal Reserve Banks and setting a limit of \$60 million on these buildings (passed 314-50), and to direct the House conferees to oppose electrical generating facilities at the atomic reactor in Hanford, Washington (defeated 148-246).

**ADJOURNMENT PLANS:** It now appears that Congressional adjournment will not come until the latter part of September. We are therefore scheduling our 20-stop mobile office tour from October 1 through November 3. I will be in the Fifth District from time to time in September to keep some of my appointments but a few may have to be cancelled because of the continuing Congressional sessions. My office at 425 Cherry Street, S. E., Grand Rapids, is open daily. The telephone number is GL 6-9747.

**AVAILABLE MATERIAL:** We have on hand a limited supply of the latest yearbook of Agriculture entitled, "After a Hundred Years." We also have a sizeable number of booklets containing questions and answers on "Our American Government," especially helpful to students. Let me know at 351 House Office Building, Washington, D. C., if you can use either of these.



# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



September 12, 1962

Except for consideration of bills on the Consent and Private Calendars, there was little activity in the House of Representatives last week. As one of three official Republican objectors I was present Tuesday when bills on the Consent Calendar were called. Bills approved by a legislative committee may be placed on the Consent Calendar for consideration with little, if any, debate and passage by unanimous consent. The duty of the official objectors is to screen all these bills in order to determine whether they should be approved in this expeditious manner. If any legislation is too controversial, or if it involves too much money or makes a substantial change in policy, or if in the judgment of an objector should not be adopted, it is objected to or passed over until a later date. Of the 18 bills considered last Tuesday, 13 were approved, three were passed over, and objections were raised against two which were removed from the Consent Calendar.

The Private Calendar lists the bills approved by a legislative committee (generally the Judiciary Committee) for the relief of a person or persons. When it is evident that the operation of the law will work a serious injustice on an individual and there is no administrative remedy available, private legislation may be considered to eliminate or modify the inequity. Last Tuesday the House acted on 48 private bills, approving 30 and passing over 18.

Because of the Labor Day recess I was able to participate in community activities at Sparta and Comstock Park. It was my privilege to crown the queen at the Sparta Rodeo and to present awards to the queen and her court at Comstock Park's Labor Day festivities. Because no business was scheduled for Thursday, I returned home again to meet with the Township officers of Kent and Ottawa Counties at their association meeting on the morning of September 6th and with the Byron Center Lions Club at noon. This week I plan to be in Grand Rapids and Holland on Thursday and I hope to be in Lowell, Grand Rapids, and Coopersville next week if no important votes are scheduled in the House. The vote on the UN bond issue will probably come this Friday and I want to be present for that controversial and important legislation. Next week I must be here when the foreign operations appropriation bill is debated. As the second ranking Republican member of the Subcommittee reporting the bill, I have special responsibilities during its consideration.

ACTIVITY IN THE CURRENT SESSION: The record of accomplishment of the current session of Congress can hardly be called "distinguished." The session has been marked by unnecessary inaction and delay. Only four of the 12 regular appropriation bills have become law. All should have been signed by the President by July 1, the beginning of

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the new fiscal year. According to law the Congress is to adjourn by July 31 except in case of a national emergency.

The official "Calendar of the House" lists only three major legislative bills which have become law. Yet through August 31st, the House had been in session 128 days or 510 hours and 19 minutes. It had filled 6,498 pages of the Congressional Record with its proceedings, had passed 905 measures of all types, and has seen 147 of its public bills enacted into law. It is interesting to note that the Senate has been in session over 915 hours during the same period and has filled 10,820 pages of the Record, passing 857 measures of all types, and has seen 76 of its public bills become law.

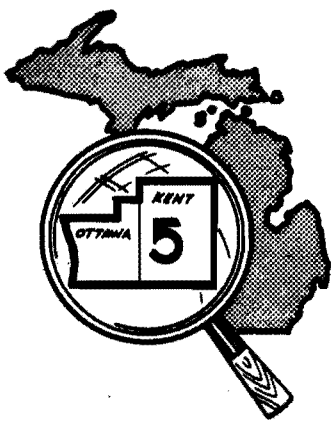
**BUT THE NATIONAL DEBT SOARS:** According to the "Daily Statement of the U. S. Treasury," at the end of August the national debt stood at over \$302.7 billion. This is an increase of \$9.8 billion in one year. On August 30th a year ago the debt amounted to \$292.9 billion. When Mr. Kennedy took office the U. S. debt was \$289.9 billion or \$12.8 billion less than today. There has been progress on the New Frontier--in raising the national debt burden. It is now at an all-time high with \$1618 in debt obligation for every man, woman, and child in the United States. (According to the calculating machine at the Bureau of the Census, U. S. population at 8:00 a.m. on September 6th was 187,169,229.)

**AND FEDERAL PAYROLLS GROW:** According to the latest report of the Joint Congressional Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures the number of civilian employees in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government increased by 14,530 in July of this year. This was on top of a 35,000 increase in June. The total number of civilians now on the payroll in the Executive Branch is 2,511,025. This is an increase of 158,188 employees since Mr. Kennedy took over the Executive Branch. There has been advancement on the New Frontier--in the number of employees on the federal payroll.

**AND TREASURY EXPENDITURES MOUNT:** \$1.8 billion more has been spent during the first two months of the current fiscal year than during the same period last year according to the Treasury Statement. During July and August, 1962 over \$20.6 billion was withdrawn from the Treasury compared with \$18.8 billion for the same two months a year ago. During the month of August money flowed out of the Treasury at the rate of over \$257,000 a minute every hour of every day in the month. On the New Frontier funds flow OUT of the Treasury in ever-increasing volume.

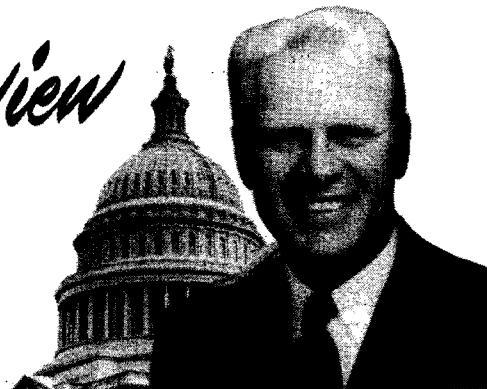
**AND NOW THE TAX QUESTION:** All responsible citizens are concerned with the implication of these facts in any proposal to reduce taxes. Responsible public officials cannot promise any substantial tax cut unless they can show ways and means of reducing federal expenditures. Responsible statesmanship as well as responsible citizenship demands a balanced budget and a reduction of the national debt. On the New Frontier, this is only a myth.





# Your Washington Review

by  
Congressman  
**JERRY FORD**



September 19, 1962

The most significant issue before the House of Representatives last week involved the purchase of United Nations Bonds. On January 30, 1962 President Kennedy recommended to the Congress that it authorize the appropriation of \$100 million to purchase one-half of a \$200 million bond issue by the UN. On April 2nd the Senate approved legislation (S.2768) permitting the United States to loan up to \$25 million plus an amount equal to the loans and pledges of all other nations. As of September 12th nineteen other nations had actually purchased \$27,750,000 worth of UN bonds and a total of 48 countries had agreed to purchase an additional \$45,418,257 worth. These purchases and pledges plus the \$25 million of unmatched funds equal \$98,168,257. So the Senate bill authorized the purchase of nearly the entire \$100 million worth of bonds.

On August 10th the House Committee on Foreign Affairs made its recommendations to the House. It was these recommendations, embodied in the amendments to S. 2768, which were considered by the House membership last week. The Committee proposed that the loan by the United States be limited to an amount equal to the total value of the bonds actually purchased by all other countries. This would place the present limit at \$27,750,000, the total amount actually loaned (cash on the barrel-head) by other nations as of September 12.

Under the bill recommended by the House Committee the U. S. could lend the full \$100 million only when other countries have loaned a total of \$100 million to the UN. The Committee said that "it is convinced that any test, such as the distribution of the world's population, resources, or wealth, does not justify the assumption of more than 50 percent of the cost of alleviating the current United Nations Crisis" by the United States. With that particular statement I agree fully.

The House Committee also amended the Senate bill to express Congressional satisfaction with the advisory opinion of the World Court that the assessments levied by the UN General Assembly on member countries for the costs of the Middle East and Congo operations are "expenses of the Organization." As such these assessments must be paid or the member country loses its right to vote in the General Assembly when it is at least two years in arrears. However, this recent decision by the World Court is ADVISORY only and does not become binding upon the UN unless approved and adopted by the General Assembly. A motion was made on the floor of the House to further amend the bill by making the U. S. loan to the United Nations contingent upon the concurrence by the UN in the advisory opinion of the World Court. I supported this amendment as fair, logical, and necessary if the UN is to be a responsible international agency. Members who want to vote should pay their legal dues and assessments. An understanding of this aspect of the problem requires

that we look briefly at the causes of the UN deficit and the need for some action.

**CAUSES OF UN DEFICIT:** The UN and its affiliated agencies obtain their funds from three sources: regular budgetary dues to be paid by member nations, voluntary contributions (such as to the Children's Fund), and special assessments upon members to finance the United Nations Emergency Force which has 5,100 troops along the Israeli-Egyptian border (Gaza Strip) to maintain peace, and to finance the United Nations Operation in the Congo where 18,000 troops from 18 nations cost the UN \$120 million a year.

The regular budgetary dues of most nations are being paid. The U. S. share is 32.02 percent which in fiscal 1962 amounted to \$23.7 million. But the problem arises in connection with the special assessments to support the Gaza Strip and Congo operations. Of the 104 members of the UN, 66 are in arrears on their Congo account and 56 have not paid their Gaza assessment. The Communist bloc has refused to pay any assessment for either operation. This group, including Cuba, owes over \$45 million. The Arab nations do not pay for UN expenses in Gaza, and France and Belgium have not contributed to the Congo activity. Some smaller nations, although not objecting to these special UN operations, have not met their special assessment obligations. While the U. S. is obligated to pay only 32.02 percent of the total of any special assessment, it has made additional payments in the form of voluntary contributions with the result that our country has paid 47.7 percent (\$114.5 million) of the Congo military cost and 46.95 percent (\$57.6 million) of the Gaza military costs. Despite these extraordinary payments by the U. S. the United Nations at the end of March had a net deficit of \$119.8 million, consisting for the most part of unpaid bills of governments for supplies, transportation, and extra pay and allowances for military personnel. Payments due the United States amount to \$32.1 million.

**QUESTION TO THE WORLD COURT:** The UN Charter says that any member nation which is two years behind in payment of its UN dues for the "expenses of the Organization" may not vote in the General Assembly. Some nations contended that the costs for military operations in the Gaza Strip and in the Congo were not "expenses of the Organization" within the meaning of the Charter. These nations insisted that they could refuse to pay the special assessment indefinitely without losing any voting rights. The World Court recently rejected this argument and ruled that special assessments like regular dues must be paid in order to retain voting rights in the General Assembly. It should be noted that the refusal to pay regular dues or special assessments does not bar a nation (including Russia) from voting in the Security Council or exercising its veto power there.

**NEED FOR ACTION:** I am sure that most of us will agree that the UN has not been able to function as its sincere founders intended largely because of the policies and manipulations of the Communist bloc. Also, many in the U. S. have severely criticized UN activity especially in the Congo. But a refusal to take some constructive action to solve the UN's present financial problem will only bring about what the Soviet Union most earnestly desires: a weak and ineffective UN serving only as a forum for debate and the dissemination of propaganda. The House bill was a vast improvement over the President's original request but was reluctantly accepted by Mr. Kennedy and the State Department. I supported it on final passage.



# Your Washington Review

by

Congressman

## JERRY FORD

September 26, 1962



This is the final issue of YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW for the current session of Congress. I hope adjournment comes at the end of this week but at this writing we cannot be certain. Our eighth annual mobile office tour will open at Wyoming on Monday afternoon and evening, October 1st unless the Congress extends its session beyond this week. At each of the 20 stops in Ottawa and Kent Counties, I will be in the mobile office from 2:30 until 8:00 p.m. The date in each community will be publicized and I invite everyone to come in for a personal visit.

**AN ACTIVE WEEK:** The legislative machinery moved into high gear last week. On Monday in the House of Representatives there were four quorum calls, all of which I answered. But on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday when I was in Lowell and Grand Rapids to keep long-standing speaking engagements there were also four quorum calls and seven ye-and-nay votes. Had I been present I would have voted for two motions relative to parliamentary procedure. The motions were made primarily to delay action, and passed 355-17 and 339-26. I would have voted for the resolutions calling for consideration of a bill to revise the boundaries of the Virgin Island National Park (approved 268-5) and for the bill to strengthen the personnel security procedures in the National Security Agency (adopted 351-24).

Another bill, H. R. 11363, to strengthen the national security program with respect to defense contractors and their employees was supported 247 to 132 but lost because it was brought up under suspension of the rules requiring a 2/3 vote. I endorse this legislation and will vote for it if it comes up another time under regular procedure. A motion in support of an appropriation of \$1.6 million for the construction of a peanut research laboratory in Georgia was defeated 143-221. I would have voted with the majority because there is no agreement in the peanut industry that the laboratory should be built in Georgia. The House also voted 246-125 against permitting members of the Congress to send franked mail (no postage) addressed only to "Box Holders." For many years such mail could be sent to rural route and post office box holders. Last year the privilege was extended to city delivery routes. The action on Wednesday eliminated the right altogether. I endorse this latest action by the House.

**FARM LEGISLATION:** The second farm bill to come to the House floor this year came back on Thursday for approval of changes made by the Senate and the joint Conference Committee. (The first bill was killed in June by a vote of 205-215). The second bill, (H.R. 12391) passed the House in July by a vote of 229 to 163. However, with the Senate's amendments we had a much less desirable bill, but it squeezed through the House 202-197. I voted "no" on this expensive and unworkable legislation described in the REVIEW for July 25th.



**COLLEGE ACADEMIC FACILITIES AND SCHOLARSHIP ACT:** The House on Thursday rejected by a vote of 214 to 185 the Conference Report (Senate-House compromise version) on H. R. 8900 which would provide federal assistance for college and university classrooms. Main opposition centered on the federal scholarship (called nonreimbursable loans) provision inserted by the Senate and previously rejected by the House. The total cost of these loans was unknown but could exceed \$100 million during the next 9 years. I voted with the majority against the bill.

**MUTUAL SECURITY APPROPRIATION:** The Appropriation Committee of which I am a member recommended a foreign aid appropriation of \$3.6 billion which was a cut of \$1.1 billion from the President's request. The amount approved by the House is adequate if properly spent, despite protests by the Secretary of State. I strongly supported amendments to bar any funds to countries helping Castro in any way. I also supported two other amendments, one to prohibit the use of U. S. aid funds to purchase automotive vehicles from other countries and another to prevent our foreign aid funds' being used to pay UN assessments for other nations.

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT THE SERVICE ACADEMIES:** Young men who have graduated from high school by June, 1963 and are under 22 years of age by that date are eligible for consideration for appointments to West Point, Annapolis, Colorado Springs, and the Coast Guard and Merchant Marine Academies. The Fifth District Congressman is entitled to designate one appointee to each of the Army, Navy, and Air Force academies for the class entering July, 1963. My selections have always been based on the results of an open, competitive Civil Service examination taken by those boys who have made application. The examination this year will be given on Saturday, November 10th. Applications should be requested from my office immediately.

Appointments to the Coast Guard and Merchant Marine Academies are made by the institution involved but I do have application forms. All of these academies offer young men an excellent education and an opportunity for useful service.

**TO ELECT TWO CONGRESSMEN:** For the first time in 50 years and the second time in the history of the State, each Michigan voter this year will be selecting two members for the House of Representatives. Voters in all of the 18 congressional districts will be electing their own congressman as usual plus participating in the election of a congressman-at-large to serve the entire state. This situation has developed because the State Legislature and Governor did not agree upon a plan for dividing the State into 19 congressional districts following the 1960 census. I hope the matter will be resolved before the 1964 election.

But on November 6th of this year every voter should remember that he is to vote for two representatives in Congress. The candidates for the office of Congressman-at-Large are Alvin M. Bentley, Republican Congressman from the 8th District for eight years, and Neil Staebler, former Democratic State Chairman and National Committeeman.