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JOURNAL

OF

WILLIAM H. NATCHER

MEMBER OF CONGRESS

2ND DIST. OF KENTUCKY

VOLUME III

PART II

July 22, 1955

The House adjourned yesterday until Monday and with the Housing Bill, Gas Bill, Highway Construction Bill, House Administration Increase in salaries Bill deadlocked in Rules Committee, we will probably be in session as long this year as we were last year. I certainly see no chance of adjourning the last day of this month unless we ignore many important Bills now pending.

Yesterday in Geneva, President Eisenhower proposed that all secrets from American and Soviet Military Establishments be swept away and with each country given blueprints of all military establishments from one end of the country to the other, thereby setting aside the possibility of a great surprise attack by either nation. In addition the President requested that each country grant the other ample facilities to make all the aerial photographs it desires of the other nation. This was a momentous effort on the part of our President to convince the Russians of the sincerity of America's wish to end the nuclear arms war. If this plan was accepted by Russians, in my opinion, it would go a long way toward expelling the distrust now in existence. In substance the Russians

are requested to lift the Iron Curtain and with the present change in philosophy as far as the leaders are concerned I am wondering if the President moved too fast for the Russians.

The Government's report yesterday that the 1955 deficit was over four billion dollars is somewhat startling to those who are insisting upon a tax cut for next year. The Republicans have talked repeatedly about balancing the Budget without getting very close to their goal. This was one of the planks in the 1952 platform. It is only logical that the way to balance the Budget is to cut spending or raise taxes, or both. So far, this Administration has cut taxes and cut spending just a little. It is my guess that the present Administration will attempt to balance the Budget next year which is presidential election year the this balance will be made at the expense of the Public Works Program throughout the United States.

The Governor's race in Kentucky is the closest race today that I have ever witnessed. We have had a lot of mud-slinging and accusations of a moral nature. Sixty days ago, Senator Barkley issued a statement that for 40 years as a Member of Congress he had taken no part in Democratic primaries in Kentucky and felt that he should not dictate to the people as how they should cast their

vote in the primary and for this reason he would take no part in the present Governor's race. Several days ago Senator Barkley issued a press release eulogizing Judge Bert T. Combs as Governor of Kentucky and stated that he was a loyal Democrat and for that reason he would cast his vote for Combs and against A. B. "Happy" Chandler. On Wednesday, Robert L. Riggs, correspondent of the Courier Journal here in Washington wrote an article stating that Natcher, Watts, and Perkins were for Bert Combs, Noble J. Gregory of the First District was for Chandler, Frank Chelf was "neutral" for Happy Chandler and Brent Spence was "neutral" for Combs. Senator Clements is for Combs and in fact, made the selection. In my opinion, five weeks ago Happy Chandler was in the lead to the extent of 35,000 majority and with no answer being made to the \$32,000 in whiskey checks received by Chandler from the Wholesale Whiskey Firm in Lexington, Kentucky beginning the last year of the Senator's stay in the U.S. Senate and extending throughout his first year as Baseball Commissioner, this campaign has developed into a horse race. The majority is all gone and the race today could be won by either candidate. When an anti-Administration candidate is able to draw a crowd of 1,200 people in Todd County for a political speech, this simply means that there is a lot of dissatisfaction as far as the candidates

are concerned and the outcome of this race will not surprise me one way or the other. I have never seen the Courier Journal take such a vigorous part in a Governor's race. Including an editorial endorsing Bert Combs, there have been several editorials taking the whole editorial page, setting forth whiskey checks, swimming pools, false promises, and below the belt tactics of the anti-Administration candidate. In fact, the Courier has gone so far as to write a favorable editorial for Senator Clements trying to show that Chandler is making the race against Combs and not Clements and that Clements is not such a bad fellow even though he is somewhat deceitful. The editorial almost endorsed Clements' past record and to me was adroitly prepared.

A move is now under way in Allen County to gain approval for the construction of the Barren River Number Two Reservoir. So far the majority of the people in Allen County have been against it and I certainly shall not attempt to have same constructed unless the majority of the people in the County approve of this Reservoir. It is to be constructed nine miles east of Allen County and it takes some 2,000 acres of land. Personally, the construction would be of great benefit to my home county, and especially Bowling Green, which receives its water supply from

Barren River. Regulated and controlled water supply on the Barren would be of great benefit to Warren County and ultimately all counties down to the Green.

July 23, 1955

The Senate passed President Eisenhower's \$3,215,841,750 Foreign Aid Bill last night by a vote of 62 to 22. The Senate restored \$567,100,000 of the \$627,000,000 cut made by my Committee. The measure now goes into what is expected to be a bitter conference with the House which voted \$2,638,741,750 for the program. I will be named as one of the House Conferees and up to the present time have not changed my mind at all concerning the justification of the House cut. Senator Dirksen will be one of the Senate Conferees and in his loud, noisy way will attempt to force the Conference to accept the Senate version. This man is rude, noisy and very deceitful. My Chairman of the Subcommittee, Congressman Passman of Louisiana, informed me the other day that Dirksen is a great man for calling you by your surname in a very surly way and that every time a House Member addressed the Senator as Dirksen, he would be willing to buy the Member a beautiful Christian Dior tie.

Yesterday was the Capital's hottest day of the year. The temperature was

98 degrees and the humidity was about 88 percent.

The Air Force is moving fast to counter Russian air power strides and will step up production for Jet Fighters and a new all-weather Jet Interceptor Fighter.

According to my Whip Notice, on Monday of next week we will take up 12 District of Columbia bills and on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, if rules are reported we will consider H.R. 3383 - Upper Colorado Storage Project, H.R. 7126 - Polio-myelities Vaccination Assistance Act of 1955, S. 2127 - Small Business Administration Bill, H.R. 7470 - Defense Production Act (Extension), S. 2126 - Housing Bill, H.R. 6645 - Natural Gas Act, H.R. 7474 - Federal Aid Highway Construction Bill, H.R. 7152 - School Construction Bill, H.R. 7440 - Equalization of Salaries.

The Senate, after a short debate, approved Resolutions yesterday paving the way for Memorials to the late Franklin D. Roosevelt and Senator Robert A. Taft, Republican of Ohio. The Taft Memorial will be a bell tower on the Capitol grounds and will be financed privately by subscription and maintained by Congress. The type of Memorial to former President Roosevelt has not been agreed upon but the authorization has been granted.



Congressman Cleveland M. Bailey, Democrat of West Virginia, shaved off a mustache yesterday to celebrate the 21 to 9 vote on the House Education and Labor Committee, bringing out the bill authorizing a 4-year Federal Aid Program of grants and loans totaling \$8,350,000,000 to help build schools all over the Nation. This compromise Bill would take effect next July 1. Five years ago the good Congressman was defeated trying to bring out a school bill and from that time until yesterday wore a mustache. Bald-headed and with a red mustache, our champion is the gentleman who clobbered the Colored Congressman from New York during the Committee session when the Harlem Democrat unthoughtedly called the gentleman from West Virginia a liar.

July 25, 1955

Cordell Hull died on Saturday of last week at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center. He was eighty-three years of age, and, as a former Member of the House, the Senate, and as Secretary of State, his life was honored, and his death is mourned by millions of men at home and in the far places of the earth by reason of his integrity of purpose.

President Eisenhower returned from Geneva yesterday. In substance, President Eisenhower submitted to Soviet Russia an alternate plan whereby Russia

may submit to a genuine disarmament system thereby opening the way to a real relaxation of world tension, or they can go on with increasingly expansive efforts to match the United States in the arms race which will get them no where as long as the United States does not relax. No agreements were reached at Geneva, and all proposals will now be transferred to the United Nations Disarmament Committee.

No settlement in the transit strike here in the District.

Senator Walter F. George, of Georgia, yesterday called for a conference between the United States and Red China, with this conference to be held before the end of the year and to consist of a Foreign Ministers meeting. The Senator believes that this will prevent a Formosa situation flare-up which might end in a dangerous crisis.

We start a long week in the House today and I only hope that we will be successful so that we may adjourn by the present tentative date of August 3rd.

July 26, 1955

Our improvements consisting of the rebuilding of Lock at Dam Number One near Spottsville, Kentucky and the Lock and Dam at Rumsey, Kentucky will be completed by mid-summer of 1956. The

contract cost for the construction of the Lock at Dam Number One is \$3,777,337. The contract for the construction of the Lock and Dam calls for an outlay of \$4,200,074. Dredging of 103 miles of Green River has started and will include both channel and shore work.

We are entering the home stretch as far as adjournment is concerned and in order to make all of our laws good and legal, Speaker Rayburn has directed a letter of inquiry to the Attorney General inquiring as to the legality of all laws passed after July 31. It seems that under our Re-organization Act, adjournment is automatic on July 31 each year except in the event of national emergency. We take up our Highway Bill today and this Bill should require at least two days, therefore, it is my opinion that we will not be able to adjourn this week.

Yesterday Speaker Rayburn under unanimous consent request of Congressman Passman, appointed Congressmen Passman, Gary, Rooney, Cannon, Fernandez, Lanham, Natcher, Denton, Taber, Wigglesworth, Fenton, Ford and Hand as Conferees on the part of the House on the Bill H.R. 7224 making appropriations for Mutual Security for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956. The Senate Conferees have issued a Press Release that under no circumstances will they permit the \$627,000,000 House cut to

prevail and that they will insist that all of this cut go back into the Bill except approximately \$60,000,000. In considering the Mutual Security Bill on the floor of the Senate, Senator Jenner of Indiana, in making his speech upholding the House cut stated in part as follows:

"I do not believe that the Senate has all the brains on Capitol Hill. The Executive Branch apparently has explained the program to the House of Representatives. But the House of Representatives which is responsible for initiating tax legislation, which has a great responsibility in foreign policy, and which is closest to the people voted 250 to 113, I believe, for the reductions in the Bill. Yet we are asked to say, "We will put it all back." We treat our coequal body as though its Members were all ignoramuses. Are we know-it-alls? There must be two sides to the story."

I am waiting for my notice to attend this particular conference and same will certainly be a hot one. Under no circumstances will I cast my vote to restore the full \$627,000,000 cut.

Deaths and resignations averaging 28 persons per Congress since 1945, so far have touched the 84th Congress only slightly. Since the close of the 83rd Congress there have been no resignations

and only Congressman Dwight L. Rogers of Florida died. During the entire 83rd Congress 9 Senators, 8 Representatives, and one House Delegate died. Ten Members resigned from the House during the 83rd Congress and two from the Senate.

July 27, 1955

The Mutual Security Appropriations Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations began hearings on June 9 and continued through June 29. During this period of time we heard a number of witnesses including Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, Assistant Secretary of Defense Struve Hensel, Foreign Operations Administration Director Harold E. Stassen, and many other witnesses, concerning the Foreign Aid Appropriation. Under our present Mutual Security Law only 25% of the funds on hand may be obligated during the last sixty days of each fiscal year. During our hearings we ascertained that \$732,000,000 unobligated and unexpended funds would be on hand as of June 30, 1955. We also uncovered the fact that there was \$8,717,100,000 obligated and unexpended in the Mutual Security Program. In fact so much money and in so many different accounts that the Foreign Operations Administration, the Department of Defense, and the Department of the Army very reluctantly admitted that they were not too sure about the exact

amount, and as to how much of same had been obligated and re-obligated time after time to save same from Congress. In other words, we discovered that one item of \$300,000,000 was obligated for a certain purpose in the year 1952 and re-obligated in the year 1953 for another purpose, and still in the year 1954 this particular amount was re-obligated for a still different purpose and same still unexpended. This clearly showed that this re-obligation of this amount was for the purpose of retaining same and cover up so far as Congress is concerned. Our Subcommittee in making the discovery as to the \$8,717,100,000 and the \$732,000,000 really took the Foreign Operations Administration, and the new organization, now know as International Cooperation Administration, by surprise. The Foreign Operations Administration and the Secretary of State decided that since we discovered the \$732,000,000 unobligated and unexpended funds some method must be used to have same obligated prior to the last day of the fiscal year. And, in order to accomplish this purpose, they sent Major General R. S. Moore, Special Assistant to the Comptroller of the Department of Defense, together with Markley Shaw, Assistant Comptroller, up to the Hill to see Congressman Taber and Wigglesworth, the two leading Republican Members of our Subcommittee. They hoped to secure permission from

these two Members, who, in turn, would convince our Chairman of the Subcommittee, Otto Passman of Louisiana, that the money should be obligated in order that we would not cut same for fiscal year 1956. The meeting resulted in a definite stand by the three above-named Congressmen with the two representatives of the Department of Defense that \$420,000,000 of this amount should not be obligated, but that \$312,000,000 could be obligated. In order that there might be no misunderstanding a request was made of the Major General to place same in writing so that the balance of the Subcommittee could pass upon the action. The next day, which was June 30, the Bureau of the Budget suddenly granted permission to reserve the total \$732,000,000 which the Attorney General held was not an obligation, and did not violate the law. The memorandum, submitted in writing and signed by the Major General, stated, in part, as follows:

"This is to make record of Mr. Shaw's and my understanding of the agreement reached yesterday, the 28th of June, 1955 by the three Members present in connection with the apportionment request of the Department of Defense by military assistance funds now pending in the Bureau of the Budget."

The word "by" was used as if the meeting and agreement only concerned the three Congressmen and was not entered into by the representatives of the Federal Government. Since the Bureau of the Budget permitted the full \$732,000,000 to be reserved our subcommittee in marking up the bill reduced the total amount of the Bureau of the Budget request by \$627,000,000. The senate restored all of this amount with the exception of approximately \$60,000,000 and scolded the House for its action.

On Thursday, July 21, our Subcommittee had a closed door executive committee meeting and placed Mr. Shaw and Major General Moore under oath. Mr. Shaw testified that he prepared a memorandum and submitted same to General Moore, who, in turn, prepared the final memorandum which contains the word "by". Mr. Shaw testified that a Mrs. Winkler typed the first memorandum, and we immediately called her to the Hill to give her testimony. On page 31 of the hearings this fine young lady testified under oath that she did not have her stenographer's notebook for the 28th and 29th of June because whenever she filled up one she usually tore it up and placed it in the burn bag. You could clearly see that the young lady was telling a story, but had been instructed to do so. When it came my turn to examine Mrs. Winkler



I informed my Chairman that I did not care to ask her any questions. I made up my mind that the Major General was deliberately lying about what took place, and, after he testified that he showed the finished memorandum which contained the word "by" to Mr. Shaw and secured Mr. Shaw's approval, I asked Mr. Shaw, who was sitting in the Committee room and heard the testimony, if the General's testimony was correct. On page 46 of the hearings, Mr. Shaw testified that the General's statement was not correct, and that he did not see the finished memorandum, and did not approve the word "by". This made the General out an unmitigated liar. In addition Mr. Hensel, who is one of the outstanding lawyers of this country, sent a telegram to Assistant Secretary of Defense McNeil from the West Coast stating that he could not understand our Committee's action because he had discussed the question of obligating the \$732,000,000 with Congressman John Taber by telephone on June 26. The call was made to the Congressman at his office on Capitol Hill. On page 53 of the hearings Congressman Taber stated for the record that the Assistant Secretary of Defense Hensel had no conversation with him over the telephone, or otherwise, at any time on June 26th, or the day before, or the day after. The Congressman to confirm his statement withdrew from his wallet a small calendar which showed June 26

to be on Sunday, and on this particular day the Congressman was at his home in the State of New York.

The above clearly shows just how far high officials will go to accomplish their purpose, and when trapped just what means they will use to sustain their position. This morning at 10 o'clock, as one of the House Conferees I will have the pleasure of going over this entire transaction with the Senate Conferees on the Mutual Security Appropriations Bill for 1956.

July 29, 1955

The bill exempting natural gas producers from direct Federal controls passed the House last night after every conceivable effort was made to defeat same. By a roll call vote of 209 to 203 the House sent the measure to the Senate where leaders have warned it will not be considered at this Session.

The Rules Committee finally agreed to permit the Public Housing Bill to come to the Floor for a vote, and beginning this morning at 11 o'clock we will start consideration of this Bill. The Rules Committee also granted a rule for the Cuban Sugar Bill, and it now looks like we should be able to adjourn by Tuesday or Wednesday.

The transit strike still continues in the District, and, at a meeting of the Board of Directors, the Capital Transit Company agreed to turn over the franchise to the District and liquidate the firm. The District Commissioners rejected this plan, and the strike still continues. I am just wonder what the people will think when the Congress adjourns and goes home with the transit strike still on.

The Senate Conferees receded, and our \$420,000,000 Foreign Aid cut was sustained. In addition my motion to cut the \$50,000,000 added by the Senate to the \$100,000,000 fund voted by the House to be used by the President was also sustained after quite a battle. This was quite a victory, and when the Senate Conferees receded on the \$50,000,000 my Chairman, Mr. Cannon, who was sitting two seats from me, leaned over and whispered in a very loud whisper that this \$50,000,000 would pay my salary as long as I was in Congress. I reminded him of the Public Works \$46,707,000, and explained that we were now even.

August 1, 1955

On Friday of last week an announcement was made here in Washington that we are now in a position to send up small unmanned earth satellites for the purpose of observing outer space

phenomena that cannot be studied from the ground or can be discerned only briefly in high-altitude rocket flight. The satellite, as described by scientists at a White House meeting with the President on Friday is a far cry from the kind of space platform which has been discussed in recent years.

The moonlet will be round, about the size and shape of a basketball. It probably will be packed with instruments which will take readings from the cosmos with some type of radio to relay data to the surface of the earth. Ready to go, it should weigh about 250 pounds at the surface of the earth.

A rocket, fired from somewhere in the United States - probably White Sands, New Mexico - will send up the first of the satellites. If performance agrees with calculations, this rocket should send the "flying basketball" up about 250 miles, and a final charge of some sort will set the device spinning in an orbit around the earth in roughly a north-south direction at a speed of 18,000 miles an hour. This will enable the satellite to make 16 trips around the earth every time the world turns once on its axis -- one round-the-world-trip every 90 minutes.

Some of the first questions put to the scientists were what would keep the satellite up there and how can it keep

moving at a speed of 5 miles a second? The answers to both parts of the question interlock.

The orbital speed will keep the satellite in its path, and the height of its orbit around the earth will determine its speed. At 250 miles altitude and 18,000 miles-an-hour speed, the force of the earth's gravitation and the effort of the satellite to escape from the earth will balance each other. In effect, the satellite will be falling -- but it will be falling around the earth, and theoretically it would fall forever without descending, from the point of view of an earth observer.

We are hoping to adjourn by midnight tonight. Traditionally, adjournment of Congress comes at the end of July. But in recent years this has been a tradition honored more in the breach than in the observance. Only once in the last 17 years -- on July 7, 1952 -- did Congress manage to pull up stakes before the "deadline."

This year the legislators missed again. The end of July came and went with Congress still here. But the lawmakers will come closer than usual to getting out on time. Best bet last week ended was that adjournment sine die would be declared August 1.

According to rumor, it might be that a special session will be called some time prior to the first of the year, but I have my doubts about this matter. The President has expressed keen disappointment over the House rejection of his multi-billion dollar Road Construction Program and is still insisting before we adjourn that this matter be decided.

We are in a conference controversy with the Senate over the "Boodle Bill" which is officially designated as the Legislative Appropriation Bill for the operation of Congress. The Senate added extra postage and stationery allowances for its Members, expense trips home for Senatorial employees and pay raises for Senatorial employees. The House added no fringe benefits when this Bill was up for consideration, and in conference the House Conferees have agreed to add certain benefits for the Members. Senators on the conference have balked at some of the House suggestions which caused my Chairman, Congressman Cannon, to state that he was at a loss to understand the attitude of the Senators because they took everything that was loose themselves and did not want to give anything to the House. The House Administration Committee has a rule for a bill that adds certain increases to certain House employees, and increases the base salary office allowance for each Member of the House

from \$15,000 to \$20,000, and increases the stationery allowance from \$1,200 to \$1,800. A great many Members of the House are up in arms over this fringe benefit bill and are definitely against same. I am among this group and believe that the people of this Country have had about all of this foolishness that they want. The House Leadership realized that so much heat had generated that this Bill could not pass. Therefore, they have slipped in these items in conference. Upon a roll call vote this provision may be defeated but unless the Members are careful the matter will be gabbled through notwithstanding the uproar.

On Saturday of last week the House passed over one thousand bills. Most of these were on the Consent and Private Calendars and met with the approval of the Leadership on both sides. We were passing bills so fast and there was so much confusion on the floor that our Speaker, Mr. Rayburn, became confused at one point, and then so exasperated that he uttered a very ugly word which carried over the microphone back into the chamber, causing a great deal of laughter and some embarrassment on the part of the Speaker.

Air Force Secretary Talbott is really in hot water over his dealings with private firms using his influence as Air Force Secretary. It is my guess

that he will be forced out between now and the first of the year.

The transit strike is still on and our Majority Leader, John McCormack, made the statement on the floor Saturday that it was his personal opinion that we should not adjourn until this matter was attended to.

The First Session of the Democratic 84th Congress has walked hand-in-hand with President Eisenhower on foreign policy while writing its own domestic ticket.

Here is how the President fared on the more important issues this year:

**TAXES** -- With the aid of Senator Byrd, Democrat of Virginia, he got an extension of excise taxes and the 52 percent income rate on corporations, without a cut in individual taxes, which some Democrats favored.

**RECIPROCAL TRADE** -- Again with the help of Senator Byrd, he got a three-year extension, with power to make further tariff cuts and with some compromise safeguards for hard-hit domestic industries, which prevented defeat of the program.

**HEALTH** -- The Administration's omnibus bill to encourage voluntary prepaid health plans and to ease financing of health facilities was



sidetracked, but several minor health bills moved through one or both houses.

**MILITARY MANPOWER** -- Congress extended the draft law, and gave the President new machinery for building up the organized Reserve, which now has only 800,000 men under training. The Reserve Bill was a compromise, without as much compulsion as the Administration wanted.

**MINIMUM WAGE** -- The President recommended that the rate be raised from 75 to 90 cents an hour. Both houses completed action yesterday on a \$1 minimum, effective next March.

**FEDERAL SALARIES** -- Congress complied with a Presidential recommendation that it raise its own pay and that of other Federal employees. It also passed a Military Pay Bill designed to encourage enlisted men to stay in the service.

**POSTAL RATES** -- As part of the recommendation for pay increases, the President urged Congress to increase postal rates in order to reduce or eliminate the recurring postal deficits, but this subject was not tackled.

**BUDGET** -- Democrats claim cuts of \$1.6 billion from the President's budget estimates. Including interest on the debt and other fixed charges, estimates totaled \$60.8 billion. The appropriation

bills carried \$50.1 billion. But it frequently happens that cuts made in money bills in one session are restored in deficiency bills the following January. Only time will tell how much has been saved.

**REORGANIZATION** -- Congress extended for two years the President's power to reshuffle Government bureaus and functions.

**STATEHOOD** -- The Administration's request for only Hawaii again became bogged down when Alaska was added to the bill in House Committee.

**REFUGEES** -- Bills to speed up the entrance of refugees from Europe, including one favored by the Administration failed to get out of committee.

**MILITARY SURVIVORS BENEFITS** -- The House passed a bill to adjust and equalize these benefits. The Administration favored action, but the Senate left it for January.

Just about everybody wants better roads but it looks now like there will be no new National Road Building Program this year. The reasons are as old as modern civilization - money and politics.

Three plans were submitted to the House of Representatives, and the key

features of these three bills are as follows:

1 -- General Clay -- Set up a new Federal agency to borrow money for road-building from private business and then repay the loans with interest over a 30 year period through anticipated gasoline tax revenues. The proposed \$25 billion Federal outlay would not be classed as part of the national debt. Over 10 years, the Federal-State program would cost \$38 billion.

2 -- Senator Gore -- Get started right away on building roads. Pay for a five-year, \$18 billion program with money appropriated by Congress. Increase the Federal gasoline tax to help finance the program. It is this plan which Democrats hope to salvage next year.

3 -- Representative Fallon -- Finance a 12-year, \$48 billion program through a series of new and increased excise taxes. Add a penny to the Federal two-cent-a-gallon tax and impose sharp increases on truckers.

The excise tax on trucks, buses and trailers amounts to 8 percent of the total cost of the vehicle. The excise on passenger cars is 10 percent.

On tires, the levy is 5 cents a pound; on inner tubes, it is 9 cents. On all other accessories, the tax is 8 percent.

The defeated Fallon Plan would have raised the Federal gasoline tax from the present level of two cents a gallon to three. It also would have increased the tax on diesel fuel from two to four cents a gallon.

The biggest proposals were on tires. For those under size 7½x18 to and including 8½x18, it would have gone to 8 cents and for those above that figure, the tax would have gone up to 15 cents a pound.

On inner tubes, the tax would have been raised from the present level of 9 cents to 15. A new tax of 15 cents a pound would have been imposed on camelback, material used in retreads.

Additionally, the manufacturers excise tax on trucks, buses and trailers would have been raised two percent to a total of 10 percent, putting them at the same level as passenger cars.

August 2, 1955

We spent another long day yesterday, and, much to the amazement of a great many Members, we did not bring the First Session of the 84th Congress to a close. So many bills were presented that the Members became somewhat alarmed, and stayed close to the chamber. One or two bills were held back by the Leadership hoping that a

great many of the Members would tire out and go to their offices. One of these bills authorized the District Commissioners to take over the Transit Company and operate the buses and streetcars, thereby bringing the strike to a close. A trick provision in this bill provided that any deficit in the operation of the Company was to be paid by the District of Columbia, which, in reality, will mean the Federal Government. Finally the bill was called out, and the rules were suspended with the bill failing to receive the necessary two-thirds vote. This bill was immediately sent to Rules Committee and a rule issued which will bring the bill to the floor of the House today. It only requires a majority to pass the bill today and same may pass.

The Legislative Appropriation Bill and the Housing Bill were in conference yesterday, and, after a great deal of talk and harsh words, the conferees decided on 45,000 units for one year for housing, but absolutely failed to agree on the Legislative Appropriation Bill. The Senate has added a lot of fringe benefits for their employees and their own offices, including an increase in stationery allowance and two expense trips home for two of their employees. Under the Legislative Appropriation Bill we have some \$6,000,000 for extending the front of the Capitol, and we have other important items which

were placed in on the House side. All of these items were subject to a point of order, but the Members hated to raise this point when the items were so beneficial. Now, with this agreement on, and with each Body refusing to budge, the House passed a Continuing Resolution yesterday, which simply means that the legislative salaries and the cost of the operation of Congress will remain the same as for fiscal year 1955. The Senate may either concur or disagree, and we may go right back to where we were yesterday.

Our Speaker, Mr. Rayburn, is somewhat disgruntled over the fact that the Senate will not consider the Natural Gas Act of 1955, which was passed by the House by the slim vote of 209 to 203. The Senate says that this bill will be considered next year. Our Speaker also knows that the Senate in accepting the Continuing Resolution realizes that his pet project of extending the center section of the Capitol will be deleted.

I have come to the conclusion that the last three days of the Session the Members should stay right in the House Chamber and vote against almost every bill that comes up. I definitely am against suspension of rules, and am not in favor of bills passing only on number and reading of the title.

There is no reason why we should not adjourn by midnight tonight, and do hope that the Leadership of each Body will agree, just for a change.

August 3, 1955

The First Session of the 84th Congress adjourned sine die last night at 11:36 p.m. This was the adjournment time for the House, and the Senate adjourned at 12:05 a.m. All during the day we passed upon conference reports, and a great number of bills previously passed by one Body or the other. From all reports, the President is somewhat pleased over the fact that Public Housing and several other domestic measures passed at the last minute. One of the bills passed upon by the House was the bill designed to compromise the transit strike, bringing an end to the thirty-three day shutdown of buses and streetcars here in the District. Under this bill the twenty-two year franchise of the Capital Transit Company was cancelled, and for a period of one year the District of Columbia will operate the Company, paying any and all deficits resulting from increase of wages.

The adjournment came in the House after a brief parting speech by Speaker Sam Rayburn thanking every Member for his cooperation, and stating that this was the best Congress that he had ever worked with.

During the many recesses last night the Members of the House frolicked with fun, laughter and song led by Representative Louis C. Rabaut, Democrat of Michigan. Percy Priest, Louis Rabaut, Mrs. Green and several others sang a great many songs with my colleague from Kentucky, Frank Chelf, providing entertainment by playing a number of mountain music numbers on his mouth organ. Representative Billy Matthews, of Florida, imitated the Chairman of his Committee on Agriculture, Harold Cooley of North Carolina. This was a howl.

The temperature yesterday stayed around 98 nearly all day.

The only measure up for consideration yesterday that stirred up the Members of the House was the Legislative Appropriation Bill which contained, among other things, an increase of the base of Members of the House from \$15,000 to \$17,500. This provision was placed in the bill at the insistence of Earl Wilson of Indiana, and one or two others, who are completely controlled by organizations in their States, and have men in their offices who ruthlessly run the offices having no regard whatsoever for the Members, but always looking ahead and making deals of every nature and description just in case the Member dies or is defeated. These people may be paid as high as \$11,400,



and some of the meanest, bitterest speeches that I have ever heard in the House were made when this conference report was offered for adoption. In Wednesday's Courier Journal of Louisville, Kentucky appeared an article that stated from every indication the Members of Congress would again increase their emoluments by passing a "Quickie" bill. According to this article the increase for the Members' offices was a direct emolument to the Members, and this Associated Press story was carried throughout the United States.

Air Force Secretary Talbott resigned and this resignation came as no great surprise. After using his office to increase his own profits through a private partnership arrangement in New York State, the good Secretary issued a statement that he would leave the matter of resignation up to his good friend, the President. Two days later the resignation was announced, which clearly means, to me, that the President at the present time is a candidate for reelection.

I plan on leaving Washington tomorrow for my District, and during the next few weeks will travel over the District.

August 15, 1955

The August primary election was held on Saturday, August 6, and when I arrived back in Bowling Green to vote I discovered that this election was just about as hot as I expected. In fact, the outcome was evident long before the polls closed. This simply meant that the information that I had received all along was correct and notwithstanding the fact that one or two of the leaders in our party were sponsoring the candidacy of Bert Combs against Happy Chandler, the outcome was just as expected. Happy Chandler is now the democratic nominee having won by some 18,000 majority. Harry Lee Waterfield of Clinton, Kentucky, who was the unsuccessful candidate for Governor in 1947 succeeded in running off with the Lieutenant Governor's race. A majority of the state office holders who were successful in the primary were on the Combs ticket.

Since the election a great many statements have been made which will only hurt us in November. There is still quite a bit of bitterness and hard-feelings, and it is now time for the Democrats to close ranks and march together for November. Unless this is done we can have a very difficult November general election.

One day last week I received my voting record from Ralph R. Roberts, Clerk of the House of Representatives which is enclosed in a nice folder entitled "Individual Voting Record by Roll Calls in the United States House of Representatives". During the first session of the 84th Congress, we had 147 roll call and quorum call votes. I voted and was present on each and every occasion. Last year which was the second session of the 83rd Congress, I had a perfect record. This means that since I have been a Member of Congress, I have never missed a vote, a roll call or a quorum call. According to the Clerk of the House there were 36 of us in the Congress last year that had a perfect voting record, and although I do not have the figures for this year I have my doubts that the number will be as high as 36.

On July 17, the United States for the first time in history used Atomic Energy as the sole source of light and power in an American town. The experiment was carried out without fan fare at Arco, Idaho and lasted only about an hour. Conventional power supplies were cut off after the Atomic Energy Commission's nuclear power lines were hooked up and electricity was fed into the atomic lines for one hour. The lights went off when the switch was made and for the one hour period no difference could be discovered by the

users of electricity in this town.

I still hope to take a few days vacation, but it now looks like it will have to be in December. This week I hope to get away for two days.

As soon as the weather breaks, I will start making a tour of my District.

August 26, 1955

On Monday of this week, two British Airmen flew a jet plane from London to New York and back in same day. Breakfast in London, and late lunch in New York.

On Tuesday night of this week, I delivered a speech before the Farm Bureau all-day meeting in Morganfield, Kentucky. A. D. Sprague, Jr., President of the Union County Farm Bureau informed me that I could select any subject that I desired, and with this leeway I decided to talk to the good people of Union County about the "General Development of Our Congressional District." I explained to them that from 1934 to 1954 the Green River Basin composed of some 31 counties, with 16 of same located in my Congressional District, had received a total appropriation of \$644,315.59. My first full year in Congress, our Congressional District received \$5,600,000 and this year we received

\$7,175,000. The appropriation this year was 42 percent of the total amount appropriated for the entire State of Kentucky and since our Congressional District has absolutely been side-stepped for twenty years according to the above figures which I obtained from the Bureau of the Budget, I do not care if the other Congressional Districts in Kentucky do holler. As I explained to Senator Barkley, this matter should be corrected because for years and years nothing had been done for our Congressional District. The people in Union County seemed to enjoy my speech, and much to my delight seemed to be well aware of the progress we were making.

The Gubernatorial Election has settled down a little. Considerable time and effort will be expended in closing ranks in our Party. I believe that the majority of the Democrats will vote the Democratic ticket regardless of the present feeling which is not too good.

September 1, 1955

My good friend, Congressman Frank Chelf, issued a statement yesterday to the effect that some fifty American business concerns were being overcharged by the Korean government and he emphatically objected to such procedure, in a letter to President Rhee. In closing, the article quoted the Congressman as saying that President Rhee could

be assured that a very rigid investigation would be made when the Congressman and the other Members of his Committee on Immigration or the Committee on Judiciary started its world-wide tour next month. The good Congressman laid the ground work in explaining away this junket to the good people in the Fourth Congressional District.

On Monday of this week I attended the meeting of the State Central Executive Committee in Louisville, Kentucky and was the only Member of Congress present. All of the Members were invited but failed to appear. This meeting was very harmonious, and I hope that all dissention will be eliminated in our Party between now and the November election. The Democratic nominee for Governor has made a number of threats and especially toward Senator Earle C. Clements. The Republican nominee and his new campaign Chairman, former Attorney General Eldon Dummitt, issued a release yesterday to the effect that the Republican nominee, Ed Denney, has no grudges to settle and has made no promises to eliminate any U.S. Senators or destroy a fine part and road program.

Jesse K. Lewis, Lexington attorney, who is an Independent candidate for Governor wrote to Attorney General Brownell on Monday of this week offering his aid in helping to break up what he considered to be an unlawful practice

carried on by Senator Earle C. Clements in franking free a weekly newsletter. Lewis states that from all accounts, Senator Clements will be a candidate for reelection next year and it would appear that this is one of the methods employed by him at the expense of the taxpayers to place political propoganda in the hands of voters. The weekly newsletter pertains to matters of importance to the people in the United States today, and explains legislation passed by Congress and continues along this line. A great many Members of the House and Senate have weekly and monthly newsletters, but I have always felt that even though some may be properly franked free and come under the free mail privilege, they stir up adverse comment and are not nearly as effective as some Members of Congress believe.

Senator Clements, in today's paper, answers Mr. Lewis informing him that Members of the U.S. Congress have the right under the present law to frank free newsletters and Mr. Lewis will so be informed by the present Attorney General. The good Senator is correct, but I still contend that weekly and monthly newsletters are a waste of time. The people in your District and your State want action and the vote of the District and the State cast in a careful, conscientious, intelligent manner.

Every five or six years Drew Pearson in his syndicated column gives a

list of all Members of the House who are, according to Mr. Pearson, padding the payroll by having members of the Member's family on the payroll of the United States Government, and purportedly performing work in the Congressman's office. In yesterday's paper, Pearson's column carried the list of Members by state and the amounts paid to wives, children and members of the Congressman's family. This article goes on to state that my good friend, Congressman John Taber of New York who is a Member of my Committee on Appropriations, ironically is one of the worst offenders. The article states that Congressman Taber is one of the most miserly men ever to head the Appropriations Committee and who has probably chopped more people off of the public payroll than anyone in Washington, but the policy as to his own office is considerably different because the taxpayers pay his son, Charles, \$632 a month, and a brother, Silas, \$379 a month.

Members of the House from Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, West Virginia are enumerated with members of their families on the payroll. Twenty-nine Republicans and twenty-six Democrats have one or



more relatives on Government salary. The following Members of the House are listed: Harris, Trimble, McDonough; Phillips; Miller; Hagan; Jackson; Johnson; Aspinall; Cretella; Sadlak; Herlong; Gordon; Simpson; Velde; Price; Talle; George; Long; Thompson; Herbert; Boggs; Nelson; Garmatz; Heselton; Nicholson; Wolcott; Dingell; Lesinski; Hoffman; Meader, Winstead; Harsten; Carnahan; Auchincloss; Osmer; Hand; Tumulty; Fernandez; Cole; Wharton; Williams; Pillion; McGregor; Simpson; Bass; Dowdy; Ikard; Pelly; O'Konski; Withrow; Smith; Zablocki; Taber; and Key.

September 8, 1955

It seems that most of the Members of the Committee on Judiciary are traveling in Russia this summer. A number of the Members have their wives along and among this group is Congressman John Robsion of the Third District of Kentucky. John will have alot of big tales to tell when he returns to Washington.

Nearly all of the Members of my Committee on Appropriations are traveling around the world. All expenses paid, and ample expense money is granted. At the present time I am not sold on such junkets.

When I had an office on the third floor of the Old House Office Building, Congressman Joe Holt, Republican of California, had offices down the hall on the same floor. According to A.P. press yesterday my good friend, Joe Holt, while attempting to take pictures in Moscow was confronted by a police officer who took a pistol, with the pistol cocked to fire, and held same about one foot from the Congressman's head. The order was given to get out of the American Embassy automobile and go with the officer. A police officer appeared and he in turn was outtalked by the soldier and with the Congressman afraid to move, approximately 100 people gathered around, and he was finally rescued by a Colonel in the Russian Army who spoke English and finally permitted the Congressman and the Embassy employee to drive away. This good Congressman will have a good story to tell when he returns, and according to press release is now of the opinion that the new look with all smiles from the Russians is very much over-rated.

Dr. George W. Calver, Physician to the Congress of the United States for some 27 years was quoted in the press yesterday as saying that the Members of the Congress are awfully tired and are all in need of a good vacation. Dr. Calver's ten commandments for health are:

(1) Drink plenty of water; (2) Relax completely; (3) Play enthusiastically; (4) Sleep sufficiently; and (5) give at least five percent of your time to keeping well thereby preventing the necessity of giving 100 percent of your time to getting over being sick.

Our farmers have a special place in the national economy and the sooner Secretary of Agriculture Benson realizes this fact the better off we will be. Our present system of price support loans in exchange for control over production has worked fairly well and in my opinion is the only workable system today. In order to maintain our economy, the interest of the farmer must be fully protected.

September 13, 1955

A story appeared on the front page of today's Courier-Journal entitled, "Natcher again Ballots on all Roll Call Tests." The article written by Robert L. Riggs went on to state that "for the second year in a row William H. Natcher voted on every roll call test that came before the House of Representatives. That score achieved by the Bowling Green Democrat means that he has answered aye or nay on each of the roll calls taken during the two years he has been a Member of the House. Natcher began his work as a Member in January of 1954 in

the middle of the 83rd Congress. Low scorer for the Kentucky delegation was Eugene Siler, Williamsburg, Republican, with a 79 percent voting record. With a 100 percent record, Natcher stood with 23 other House Democrats and 17 Republican Representatives. On the Senate side, Kentucky's Alben W. Barkley had a near perfect record. He answered 99 percent of the 87 roll calls during the year. His colleague, Deputy Majority Leader, Earle C. Clements, fell 20 points below Barkley, having voted only on 79 percent. Only two Democrats had a better record than Barkley for answering roll calls, and they were Spessard L. Holland of Florida and John C. Stennis of Mississippi who scored 100%. So did two Republicans, Minority Leader William F. Knowland of California, and Frederick G. Payne of Maine."

In a number of instances I saw Members of the House leave the floor and go to the Speaker's Lounge and read newspapers while certain hotly contested votes were up on major legislation.

September 21, 1955

I spent Monday in Edmonson County and all of the people, Democrats and Republicans, certainly treated me nice. They were very complimentary and I spent a nice day.

Last night I spoke at Scottsville, Kentucky, to an organization meeting of precinct workers. There is considerable bitterness in this county resulting from the primary, but I hope that same resolves itself before the November election.

Congressman John D. Dingell, 61-year old Michigan Democrat died unexpectedly Monday night at Walter Reed Hospital. His death was the first in the present 84th Congress. The Congressman represented Detroit's 15th District and has been a member since 1932. He was elected to Congress 12 consecutive terms and was the second ranking Democrat on the Committee on Ways and Means. The death of Mr. Dingell places Congressman Noble Gregory of Kentucky in third place on this Committee. The Chairman is Jere Cooper of Tennessee and the second ranking member is Wilbur Mills of Arkansas. Wilbur Mills is one of our outstanding Members in the House and has a fine chance of succeeding Mr. Rayburn as Speaker at the proper time.

Juan Domingo Peron, Dictator for ten years in Argentina resigned Monday night of this week and there was joy in Argentina. Peron's strong arm regime fell apart in the face of a rebellion by Army and Navy forces who revolted last Friday. A three-man junta of generals was named to negotiate peace with the rebels.

September 30, 1955

On Saturday of last week I attended harmony meeting of the Chandler and Combs forces in Louisville. As a Member of the Advisory Committee I also attended a meeting of this particular Committee in the morning which was held before the meeting at the fair grounds. Some 16,000 were present at the fair grounds, and we had a fine Democratic meeting. That night I flew into Washington and was back in Bowling Green on Monday. On Wednesday night of this week, I made a speech in Brownsville, Kentucky with all political leaders in both factions in the primary present. We had a fine dinner served in the basement of the Brownsville High School and the speaking followed the dinner.

I spent the day in Scottsville, Kentucky yesterday and with Circuit Court in session I had a chance to see a lot of Allen County people.

On Saturday of last week President Eisenhower suffered a very severe heart attack in Denver, Colorado at the home of his mother-in-law. He returned to Denver from a fishing trip in Colorado, and during the night Friday night and early Saturday morning he suffered a coronary thrombosis. He still is confined in the Army Hospital in Denver in a right serious condition. People in

the United States generally are offering prayers for his speedy recovery and from reports this week he should be able to carry on his duties after a complete rest of several weeks.

The President's heart attack certainly changed the picture for the Republicans. They no longer have President Eisenhower as their prospective candidate for next year and the party certainly is floundering around.

On Saturday of this week, Happy Chandler will open his fall campaign here in Bowling Green.

On Tuesday of next week I speak in Franklin, Kentucky and on Thursday we hold an all day meeting in Scottsville, Kentucky in order that I may hear both sides of the controversy which has arisen over the construction of the Barren River Reservoir. The Courier-Journal in today's issue has a fine editorial concerning Green River Valley development program and for the past several weeks a number of articles have appeared in same showing the importance of our work in this program and the articles have all been right complimentary to me.

October 3, 1955

On Saturday of last week Governor Chandler opened his November election campaign here in Bowling Green with some

250 people present. Three of the Members of the House, Gregory, Perkins and I, were present and neither one of the Senators appeared. I was very much disappointed with the size of the crowd which clearly indicates to me that the November election might be rather close. On Sunday I attended the funeral of Judge Marlin Blackwell, Circuit Judge of the District composed of Webster, Union and Henderson Counties. He was an outstanding man with probably the best record in Kentucky before the Court of Appeals. Judge Blackwell was always my friend and was very much interested in my future.

I speak in Franklin tomorrow at noon before an organization group composed of Chandler and Combs people.

On Thursday of this week a meeting will be held in the court house in Scottsville, Kentucky concerning the construction of the Barren River No. 2 Reservoir. The Corps of Engineers will be present and at this meeting I hope to determine just what the attitude is of the people in Allen County toward construction of this particular reservoir.

A great many articles have been written by the papers throughout the District, and also the Louisville, Kentucky Courier-Journal, concerning this meeting and the importance of same. It is my belief that the people in Allen



County will make a mistake if they turn down this reservoir which will cost some \$19 million and be a great asset to the county. This reservoir fits into our overall program for my Congressional District and for the Green River Valley generally.

October 7, 1955

Spent the day in Scottsville, Kentucky yesterday attending all-day citizens meeting. The Barren River No. 2 Reservoir Project was discussed and importance of same stressed. In speaking on this subject, I explained to the people that before they turned down this project they should prayerfully think this matter over keeping in mind that the Federal Government was to spend \$19,320,000 in the construction of this particular project and in my opinion same would be of great advantage industrially to Allen County and would also serve to stop migration of the people. I pointed out that from January 1, 1934 to January 1, 1954, the Green River Valley which includes the Second Congressional District of Kentucky received \$644,315.59 with no money received for the years 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1951 and 1952. I gave the figures for the Tennessee River Basin of \$1,731,766,000 for this particular period of time and \$211,810,511.34 for the Cumberland River Basin and \$6,342,700 for the

Big Sandy Basin. It just so happens that construction of this reservoir will take some 1,060 acres of the best land of Allen County for the permanent pool and would overflow several thousand acres of fine land in floodtime. The property owners were present to object to the construction and with one exception no one from the county had nerve enough to stand up and be counted in favor of this project. I know from my own personal knowledge that a great number of people in Allen County are in favor of this project but are afraid to express themselves at this time. A nice article appeared in the Park City Daily News and the Courier-Journal concerning this project and throughout my short tenure as a Member of Congress, the Courier-Journal especially has been of vital assistance to us in the development of our Green River Valley.

October 12, 1955

On Monday of this week I spent the day in Simpson County. While in Franklin, my good friend Mr. Valentine, the owner of the Franklin Favorite and Station WFKN requested that I speak over the radio during the 11:30 news cast. I enjoyed appearing on this program and met several people on the streets in Franklin shortly thereafter who had heard the program.

Last night I made a political speech in Hardinsburg and tonight I speak in Brandenburg; Thursday night in Leitchfield; Friday night in Calhoun and Saturday night before the 16 County Farm Bureau Organization dinner which will be held here in Bowling Green.

The Owensboro Messenger carried an editorial entitled "Green River League Moves Wisely" on October 8, 1955 and in part this editorial states as follows:

"At the meeting, an Allen County politician, speaking before an anti-dam crowd which included several people whose land would be flooded and who therefore are opposed to it, said the things he was expected to say. He told them he was opposed to the dam also. We wonder what he would have said if the crowd had been pro-dam?

We were happy to note that another gentleman who is also in politics, Congressman William H. Natcher of Bowling Green, did not take such a position.

Instead, he told the group the project would ease unemployment and attract new industry to the Green River Valley. He explained to them that the area has lost 104,000 people through migration during a 10-year period, primarily because of lack of work.

His words did not fall entirely on deaf ears. There were some in the crowd, staunch Allen County citizens, who voiced approval of the plan. Perhaps others changed their views at the meeting, but it is much easier to be opposed to progress than to further it."

Lawrence W. Hager, the owner of this particular newspaper is not only my personal friend but is a great believer in our Green River Valley Development Program.

October 27, 1955

I spent the weekend at Kenlake Hotel at Kentucky Lake on October 16 and 17 attending the state convention of the Burley and Dark Export Tobacco Association Convention.

Spoke in Franklin, Kentucky on Tuesday night, October 18.

On Thursday night, October 20 spoke in Bowling Green before the Agricultural Council for this District.

Spent Sunday, October 23 with Senator Earle C. Clements and W. A. Moore, the new President of the Green River Valley Citizens League, Inc. discussing future plans for development of the waterways of the Second District.

Delivered speech in Franklin on Monday night, October 24, before the Franklin-Simpson County Chamber of Commerce, using as my topic "The Present Agricultural Crisis".

Spent yesterday in Hawesville, Hancock County, and have agreed to speak in Hawesville at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, November 5.

Will speak in Russellville at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday of this week and Beaver Dam Saturday night at 7:30 p.m.

Clark Griffith, 85-year old, owner of the Washington Senators Ball Club and cofounder of the American League died today after an eight-day illness. His death removed from the active baseball scene the last of the game's great Big League pioneers. At our ball-game at Griffith Stadium this year between the Democratic and Republican Members of the House, Mr. Griffith sat in his box with Chief Justice Warren who tossed out the first ball opening the game, and when I hit the ball up against the right field fence, traveling in the air some 320 feet before it went four some two feet, and then on the second pitch thereafter got a double, Mr. Griffith stopped me when I was returning to the dug-out after scoring a run and in a jocular manner asked me what I did on Sundays. I told him that as a general rule I took off my

shoes and sat down and tried to rest a little. He laughed and said any Sunday that I wanted to I could come out and play on the Senators ball team. Hitting a 1000 impressed Mr. Griffith very much and judging from the way his team played this year his statement was not too far wrong in so far as my playing on Sunday was concerned.

The Department of Agriculture announced several days ago that the average price support loan level for the 1955 Burley crop would be \$46.20 a hundred pounds compared with \$46.40 for 1954.

November 2, 1955

Spent yesterday in Logan County and shook hands with hundreds of people in Russellville and Auburn.

I speak tomorrow night in Morganfield, the hometown of Senator Earle C. Clements, and on Friday night at Providence, Kentucky.

Today Albert Phillips of Louisville called me requesting that I speak in Louisville on Friday night of this week before an audience of some twelve to fifteen hundred at the final Louisville-Jefferson County rally. Due to conflict with my speaking engagement in Providence on that same night, it was impossible to accept. The election looks

better now, and I believe the Democratic ticket will win with 35 to 50 thousand majority.

For the last several weeks the main topic of discussion in this country has been the proposed marriage of Princess Margaret and Group Captain Peter Townsend. He is 41 years of age, divorced from his wife, and father of two children. For a period of nine years he was Equerry in the Royal Mansion in charge of the stables and Princess Margaret fell in love with him. After a lot of newspaper publicity and with the entire world guessing whether or not she would give up her right of succession to the throne and other rights, on Monday, October 31, the Princess said in a statement from Clarence House:

"I would like it to be known that I have decided not to marry Group Capt. Peter Townsend. Mindful of the Church's teaching that Christian marriage is indissoluble, and conscious of my duty to the Commonwealth, I have resolved to put these considerations before any others.

I have been aware that subject to my renouncing my rights of succession it might have been possible for me to contract a civil marriage. I have reached this decision entirely alone,

and in doing so I have been strengthened by the unfailing support and devotion of Group Captain Townsend. I am deeply grateful for the concern of all those who have constantly prayed for my happiness." The message was signed, "Margaret."

Effective immediately, the Dear Publication and Radio, Inc. of Elizabeth City, North Carolina and Jersey City, New Jersey will take over and operate the Henderson Gleaner and Journal of Henderson, Kentucky. Francelle H. Armstrong, the daughter of Leigh Harris, the owner of the Henderson Gleaner and Journal has for a number of years served as Editor of this paper. She has prepared for publication some right unusual editorials in the last few months, one of which pertained to the Lady of Peace sanitarium in Louisville for nervous disorders. This editorial explained what she saw and experienced during the period of time she was there and same was quite unusual to say the least. I was not surprised to learn that the Henderson Gleaner and Journal, one of the oldest publications in this District was to be taken over by another firm. In the announcement of Tuesday, November 1, the Gleaner and Journal stated that it had invited J. Albert Dear to be associated with the management of this newspaper and he has accepted. While right unusual we hate to see a fine old newspaper going out of existence.



November 4, 1955

Advocates of the Tennessee Valley Authority should be jubilant. Congressman John Phillips, Republican of California, announced yesterday that he would not seek reelection. This certainly comes as quite a surprise to me. Congressman Phillips is one of the outstanding Members of the House notwithstanding the fact that I disagree with his views concerning private and public power. According to press release Jacqueline Cochran announced that she would seek election to the 29th California District on the Republican ticket to take the place of Congressman Phillips. Jacqueline Cochran is the noted woman speed pilot.

November 15, 1955

I spoke before the Chamber of Commerce in Adairville, Logan County, Kentucky, on Tuesday, November 8.

On the second annual celebration of Veterans Day, on November 11, I delivered the Veterans Day Address in Henderson, Kentucky. On the Thursday night before Veterans Day, I spoke in Bowling Green before the Fortnightly Club.

I speak before the League of Women Voters on Thursday of this week here in Bowling Green and on Friday deliver one

of the two principal addresses at dedication ceremonies for the Rough River Reservoir in Breckinridge County. Senator Clements and I are the principal speakers. This Reservoir is now under construction, and the people in the upper section of my District are jubilant over this matter.

On Saturday, I fly into Washington and go before the Bureau of the Budget on Monday, November 21 and Tuesday, November 22, to make my annual request for appropriations for River and Harbor Improvements in my Congressional District. I will spend Thanksgiving with Virginia and the children, and return to Kentucky on Friday, November 25.

We had quite an election in Kentucky. The majority was 131,353 which is the largest majority ever obtained in a November election in Kentucky. Governor Chandler really surprised all of the political analysts as to the size of the majority. C. W. Lampkin was elected Mayor of Bowling Green, defeating an Independent candidate. My Congressional District gave Chandler and the Democratic ticket the second largest majority of any District in Kentucky. Our majority was 29,613. The First Congressional District was 29,433; the Second Congressional District was 29,613; Third District 3,855; Fourth District 23,937; Fifth District 18,965; Sixth District 29,726; Seventh District 14,187 and Eighth District 18,363 Rep.

Adlai Stevenson announced today that he would be a candidate for the Democratic nomination for President next year. Several leading Democrats, including my good friend, Speaker Sam Rayburn of Texas, declined to make any comment. The 55-year old former Governor of Illinois who was defeated in 1952 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower said there were three reasons why he made his decision. First, he stated that he believed it was important for the Democratic Party to resume Executive direction of our national affairs; second, he was assured that his candidacy would be welcomed by representative people in and out of the Democratic Party throughout the country, and third, he believed that it was the duty of every citizen to make whatever contribution he could in the search for a safer, saner world.

President Eisenhower has returned from the hospital in Denver to Washington after spending some seven weeks recovering from a severe heart attack. He will spend approximately six weeks at his farm near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania beginning as of today.

November 27, 1955

The Pentagon announced today that it is preparing a list of all Air Force flights made by Members of Congress since January 1, 1953. The request was made for the list by the Senate

Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee. The House Administration Committee has requested the State Department to prepare for it a list of all Members of Congress who have traveled in foreign countries since Congress adjourned and also the amount of script furnished every Member of Congress. The Chairman of this particular Committee, Congressman Omar Burleson, states that it has not been decided definitely whether the list should be published.

Certain Members of my Committee on Appropriations made a tour of almost the entire world, beginning in September and continuing through December 17. Some 34 countries were visited. I turned down this particular trip and have my doubts that I will ever make a junket tour such as the one indicated above.

The Congressional Anthology which is published by the University Press is a collection of poems submitted by Members of Congress. This publication was recently released and in some instances contained original poems of the Members.

Herber V. Prochnow, a Chicago Banker, is the new Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs. He succeeds Mr. Waugh who had the unfortunate experience before my Subcommittee on Agriculture.

Senator Walter F. George recently appealed to both political parties, requesting that our Foreign Policy be kept out of the 1956 election campaign. He is of the opinion that we must assure the world that we are capable of having a non-partisan American Foreign Policy and that regardless of who wins or loses in 1956, our Foreign Program will go on substantially as it is at the present time. This attitude is one of indication to the world that we are a mature nation.

Senator George has only recently announced that he will run for re-election, and according to my friends in the House from Georgia, Herman Talmadge, the former Governor, will run against the good Senator. This election should prove to be a very interesting one.

Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra T. Benson, has completed a plan calling for a \$400,000,000 Soil Bank Program to bolster farm income. A great number of the Republican Members of the House are predicting defeat for the Republican Party for 1956 under the declining farm income issue.

President Eisenhower returned to work during the past week and his doctors indicated that if he carries out a strict daily routine of work and relaxation he should fully recover from his severe heart attack.

Our failure at Geneva will probably call forth increased budget expenditures in our foreign aid program.

Representative Vera D. Buchanan, Democrat of Pennsylvania, age 53 died today in a hospital in her home District in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Buchanan was the widow of the late Democratic Congressman Frank Buchanan. Mrs. Buchanan has been a Member of Congress since August 1951, having been elected to fill the vacancy caused by her husband's death. During the later days of the present session of Congress, Mrs. Buchanan was out on a number of occasions due to illness.

Representative John Dingell's son has announced to fill the vacancy caused by his father's death and every indication is to the effect that he will win in the special election, called for the purpose of filling the unexpired term.

Two American Congressmen, Representative Harold C. Ostertag of New York and Representative Edward P. Boland, Democrat of Massachusetts, both Members of Committee on Appropriations, were held in the Russian Sector of Germany for more than four hours by the East German Communist police. The German police contended that the visitors had violated the rules of the German State by using an automobile equipped with a two-way radio.

The Soviet Union has within the past 48 hours exploded a hydrogen bomb and this recent explosion certainly should alert this country from the standpoint of necessary steps for our own continental protection.

I was invited to deliver the principal address at the opening of the new Louisville Produce Market due to the fact that I was responsible for the appropriation necessary to install the market news service of the Department of Agriculture. Such a market without this service is completely lost. This District is the District of my friend Congressman Robsion and regardless of politics, I felt that as a matter of Congressional courtesy I should waive this invitation.

December 19, 1955

Since my return to Kentucky on August 4, I have traveled 7,640 miles in the 16 counties in my Congressional District. During this time I have made 54 speeches, political and otherwise. I am physically and mentally tired and I am looking forward to returning to Washington to spend the Christmas holidays with my family.

Since my last speech before the League of Women Voters, I have made speeches before the Hardinsburg Chamber of Commerce; Daviess County Chamber of

Commerce; Panther Creek Association; and several Civic Clubs throughout the District.

The Second Congressional District is in fine shape politically at the present time.

Governor Lausche of Ohio has announced that he will run against Senator George Bender, a former Member of the House who took Senator Taft's old seat. To me, Senator Bender was one of the weak Members of the House and I was somewhat amazed when the Republicans of Ohio permitted him to take over Senator Taft's seat.

December 28, 1955

Congress will be back on the job in a few days faced with the tremendous task of keeping the nation strong and prosperous through the legislation it makes. High on the list are proposals for school building construction, highway legislation, agricultural program, tax cuts and budget balancing, natural gas fight in the Senate. The farmers today are fact to face with declining income and the prospect for improvement in the immediate future looks right dim unless something is done quickly to alleviate the farmers' plight.

During my travels in the District I had breakfast at Henderson, Kentucky



with Mr. Chester Lauk, the "Lum" of the Lum and Abner Television program, who had spoken the night before to the Henderson County Chamber of Commerce in a program sponsored by the Oil and Gas Interest of the United States in behalf of the Natural Gas Bill. I had quite a bit of fun with "Lum" explaining to him just why I took great delight in voting against this particular Bill, which passed the House by some four votes. The Bill is now pending in the Senate.

The son of Congressman Dingell succeeded in winning the seat left vacant by the death of his father.

A number of Members of the House have indicated that they will not run for re-election next year. Some nine or ten have announced publicly to this effect. James R. Richards, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Clifford Hope, ranking Republican Member on the Committee on Agriculture really surprised me. Congressman King of Pennsylvania, who, by the way, is one of the farmers' bitterest opponents has made a similar announcement. If ever there was a Member vulnerable this is the gentleman.

Pope Pious XII made an earnest Christmas Eve plea, calling for abandonment of atomic weapons and in atomic experimentation with a general control of armaments. He warned that the three

must come together and implied that only achieving one goal would cause suspense between nations of the world. The 79-year old Pope is the spiritual leader of 450 million Roman Catholics throughout the world and shortly after making this plea, President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles held a conference discussing this particular matter.

When the President called the leaders of Congress to the White House some two weeks ago for a preview of the Budget request for fiscal year 1956-1957, some confusion arose as to the statements made concerning Foreign Aid. The Members were somewhat angry because the foreign aid picture was passed over quickly with words indicating that the request would be about the same as the amount of the bill that passed during the present session. The President requested \$3,500,000,000 and the bill that came from the Subcommittee called for slightly less than \$3,000,000,000 and ended up in a conference for approval by the conferees at \$2,710,000,000. It now develops that a request will be made for over \$4,000,000,000 for fiscal year 1956-1957 and the battle will begin. Beginning with the year 1950 we have the following amounts expended for Foreign Aid: in 1950 appropriation was \$5,268,000,000 and \$4,572,000,000 was expended; in 1951 appropriation was \$7,621,000,000 and \$4,497,000,000 was expended; in 1952 \$7,284,000,000 was

appropriated and \$5,026,000,000 was expended; in 1953 appropriation was \$6,001,000,000 and \$5,914,000,000 was expended; in 1954 \$4,531,000,000 was appropriated and \$5,139,000,000 was expended; in 1955 \$2,781,000,000 was the appropriation and \$4,114,000,000 was expended; in 1956 appropriation was \$2,703,000,000 and \$4,100,000,000 (est) was expended; in 1957 appropriation request \$4,900,000,000 and \$4,400,000,000 estimated expenditure.

It now develops that we will be called upon for some 70-million dollars of our money to assist in a multi-purpose dam on the River Nile in Egypt. Our State Department informs us that if we fail to produce in this instance, Russia will undertake the construction of this huge project and we will be thrown for a loss. I definitely am against such an appropriation and am somewhat amazed at the present Administration's attitude when it has continuously resisted all such appropriations for this country. Multi-purpose dams should not be erected in the United States but it is alright for us to spend our money for the same purpose in foreign countries according to the present Administration.

Senator Alben W. Barkley's grandson, Thomas H. Truitt, was married this week to Jane Hadley, the daughter of the present Mrs. Alben W. Barkley by a

former marriage. The private wedding ceremony took place in Saint Margaret's Episcopal Church here in Washington and the bride was given away by Senator Barkley. She was not given too far away because as his stepdaughter, she married his grandson.

According to a recent announcement the railroads of this country earned \$10,100,000,000 during the year of 1955. Passenger service declined 4.2 percent and mail revenue declined 8.1 percent. Freight carrying revenue went up 9.5 percent.

December 31, 1955

On this last day of 1955 we have peace and prosperity to a certain extent in this country. The farm situation has reached a critical stage due to a price cost squeeze, with the farmers being very unhappy in Kentucky over the prices of hogs, and live stock generally and further due to the 15 percent Burley quota cut and 20-15 percent dark tobacco cut. The 15 percent Burley Cut makes a total of 53 percent reduction in acreage since 1952. On Tuesday, January 3, the opening day of the 2nd Session of the 84th Congress, I shall introduce the necessary Joint Resolution, restoring the Burley Tobacco cut and will take the same action as far as dark tobacco is concerned if necessary.

Yesterday Krushchev made a bristling attack on all major aspects of American Foreign Policy and at one point accused President Eisenhower of crude interference in Communist Nations' affairs.

The nation-wide survey yesterday counted close to 36 thousand traffic deaths in 1955, with the final total expected to approach 38 thousand. This is some 45 hundred more than the 33,417 American soldiers, sailors and airmen killed in battle in the three years of the Korean War.

The Second Session of the 84th Congress should be a honey. Both sides will be maneuvering for position due to the fact that a President will be elected during the year of 1956, and the American people generally will closely observe the action of this Congress. Both sides admit that it is imperative that legislation pertaining to our Agriculture bills, Highway Construction, School Building Construction, Budget Balancing and Tax Reduction if possible be acted upon.

Speaker Sam Rayburn will again be in the Chair and to me, he is still the outstanding man of our party today. Our Majority Leader, John McCormack, will be back in harness and our Whip will again be Carl Albert of Oklahoma. I hope Mr. Cannon, the Chairman of my

Committee on Appropriations, is in fine humor and will remember our action on the Floor in the present year in regard to Kentucky's projects so that it will not be necessary to go through another battle on the Floor to see that my State is protected.

January 3, 1956

The House convened at 12:00 noon today. After the Chaplain's prayer the usual Resolutions were adopted, starting the 2nd Session of the 84th Congress into motion and after Eulogies to former Congressman John Dingell and Congresswoman Vera Buchanan, the House adjourned until Thursday of this week.

I introduced a Joint Resolution restoring the 15 percent cut to Burley Tobacco and have indicated my intention of restoring the 15 - 20 percent cut to Dark Tobacco. Secretary of Agriculture Benson issued an order on December 1, 1955 cutting acreage quotas for Burley Tobacco 15 percent, and 15 - 20 percent for Dark Tobacco. In addition to raising Burley, the tobacco growers in my District also grow dark tobacco. The Dark Tobacco raised is Green River Type 36, one Sucker-Type 35, and Fire Cured-Type 22-23. I am definitely of the opinion that an orderly removal of our surplus tobacco can be effected by retaining our 1955 acreage quotas and with our farmers experiencing a price

cost squeeze it is imperative that both quotas be restored.

One of the Members in the House inquired of me if it was true that the tobacco farmers of my District voted overwhelmingly for rigid government controls using as their slogan - "Give the Liberty to Patrick Henry. Make mine Parity."

Senator Lyndon Johnson has recovered from a heart attack to the extent that he will be able to return to his job as Majority Leader in the Senate. He must have short, regulated working hours and barring unforeseen complications he should be able to resume major activities.

The Tennessee Valley Authority reported to Congress on Friday of last week that economic growth in its service area will create a severe power shortage by 1958 unless construction of new generating facilities is begun promptly. T.V.A. maintains that it is in need of some 750,000 kilowatts each year.

The chemical fertilizer now manufactured by T.V.A. is playing havoc with Fertilizer companies throughout the United States and three of same in my Congressional District are very much up in arms over this unfair competition. The price of course is exceedingly low

and private industry cannot compete. I will take this matter up at the time the T.V.A. officials testify before my Committee for annual appropriations.

From time to time I receive unusually long letters from constituents but I presume the record was established by Mrs. Frances Settle who wrote me a letter in long hand containing 52 pages. This particular lady maintains that the F.B.I. agents are using airplanes and air guns each morning over her premises attempting to take her life or to place her in a position where she would be considered unsound mentally. She very urgently requests that I take care of this matter immediately.

The new session of Congress which opened today will probably witness a clash between two veteran Democratic Senators. Senator George of Georgia, who favors an individual income tax reduction, and Senator Byrd of Virginia, who opposes any such cut until the budget is balanced. Senator George has become quite tax conscious during the past 60 days and I presume that his race with ex-Governor Talmadge has played a part in the good Senator's decision. Senator George is one of the outstanding men in the United States Senate and it seems a shame that a person the age of 77 and an able leader will have to undergo a terrific primary fight.



During the year of 1955 I guess you would say that Cold War I ended and Cold War Number II began. The Conference at Geneva momentarily brought about a mid-summer peace undertone, but lasted only a few weeks.

During the month of January a move was made to free the eleven American fliers who were confined to Chinese Communist jails, charged with being spies. Their final release was on August 4.

In February Malenkov was ousted and Bulganin moved in as Premier of Soviet Russia. On February 15 the United States announced that the bomb previously exploded in 1954 was an H-bomb that spread deadly fallout over 7,000 square miles. During the month of February Harvey Matusow testified before a Senate Subcommittee that he had deliberately given false testimony about the 13 convicted Communists.

In March the question was "War or Peace" in Formosa.

In April Dr. Jonas Salk of Pittsburgh was officially announced as the discoverer of polio vaccine considered to be from 60 to 80 percent effective. Also during the month of April in the hills of Java representatives of 29 Asian and African nations met to take up what had formerly been the white man's

burden. On April 5 Winston Churchill resigned as Britain's Prime Minister and historians may record this fact as the end of a great age.

In May Prime Minister Edens conservative government was returned to power, the first government in ninety years to increase its majority in a general election. In May the Federal Republic of Germany -- the Western part -- became a sovereign nation, but without Russia's blessing. On May 31st the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that racial segregation in public schools must be ended and the order set forth the "hows" of the matter.

June was the month witnessing the Auto Workers of America's guaranteed scale wage labor contract. During this month Peron of Argentina began to fall.

In July the Summit Conference was held at Geneva.

For a while smiles and sweetness radiated from Russia. During this month 64,000,000 Americans were employed which established a new record and Congress raised the minimum wage from \$ .75 to \$1.00 an hour.

In August we suffered damage in ten Eastern States from the Hurrican Diane. Property loss was estimated to be some \$1.6 billion, the worst in history.

In September President Eisenhower on the morning of the 24th suffered a severe heart attack and Democrats and Republicans alike assumed that the President would not run for re-election. The President has now sufficiently recovered to make the question very much in doubt.

October was the month in which Princess Margaret gave up the man she loved, Group Captain Peter Townsend, for her Royal duties. We have witnessed many Democratic victories throughout the United States and Adlai Stevenson formally announced for the Presidential Democratic nomination. During this month the Senate Majority Leader Johnson issued a thirteen point program to be presented to the present Congress.

December witnessed the consolidation of organized labor with the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O. consolidating their 15 million man labor federation. During this month Senator Kefauver of Tennessee also announced his candidacy for President of the United States and with smiles gone the Soviet Leaders proceeded to blast President Eisenhower for his brief liberation statement of the captive peoples behind the Iron Curtain.

I hope the accomplishments of 1955 are not lost during the Presidential

election year and our foreign affairs may suffer considerably.

I received a copy of the prayer of a midshipman from Admiral Holloway, Chief Bureau of Naval Personnel, and a real nice letter informing me that while he was Commander of the Naval Academy this prayer meant a great deal to him.

Since I am a Member of the Board of Visitors of the Naval Academy, I receive, from time to time, current things pertaining to the Naval Academy and this prayer is unusual. The prayer is as follows:

"Almighty Father, whose way is in the sea and whose paths are in the great waters, whose command is over all and whose love never faileth: Let me be aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and in deed, and helping me so to live that I can stand unashamed and unafraid before my shipmates, my loved ones, and Thee. Protect those in whose love I live. Give me the will to do the work of a man and to accept my share of responsibilities with a strong heart and a cheerful mind. Make me considerate of those entrusted to my leadership and faithful to the duties my country has entrusted to me. Let my uniform remind me daily of the traditions

of the service of which I am a part. If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again. Guide me with the light of truth and keep before me the life of Him by whose example and help I trust to obtain the answer to my prayer, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen."

January 4, 1955

Congress is in recess today waiting President Eisenhower's State of the Union Message tomorrow, and special messages next week on farm and school aid proposals. The President is in Key West, Florida and his State of the Union Message will be read by the clerk in each Body. The Budget message will probably come on January 16, followed by a Public Health message on January 17.

Prime Minister Eden's waning prestige with the conservative press hit a new low today when the Daily Sketch advised him either to supply the guts of leadership or quit.

The tabloid strongly supported Sir Anthony and his Conservative Party in the national election only eight months ago. Today, in a front-page editorial, it accused him of feebleness and fumbling toward foreign policy problems and Britain's worsening inflation.

"If he does not tackle inflation, his days at Downing Street (the official residence of the Prime Minister) are numbered," the Sketch declared.

The editorial added that members of Sir Anthony's own Party are saying, "if he cannot make up his mind to govern, let him make up his mind to go."

It is my information that Prime Minister Eden is a sick man and has never fully recovered from the serious abdominal operation performed in this country, some three years ago.

January 5, 1955

Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra T. Benson, gave a preview of the Administration's prospective agricultural program at a breakfast yesterday morning. The Republican Members of the House Agriculture Committee attended and today a similar meeting will be held for the Republican Senators of the Committee on Agriculture in the Senate. According to one or two of the Members who attended the breakfast, the Secretary calls for a voluntary cutback by the farmers in the production of the four major crops which have created huge surpluses -- wheat, cotton, rice and corn. In return the growers would receive certificates entitling them to get commodities from Government storage equal to the amount

of their cutback. These certificates could be sold in open market or used for feed. Cash payments instead of commodity trade were also discussed.

The price cost squeeze now being suffered by the American farmer is becoming quite serious and has the Administration working overtime attempting to solve this problem in time for the Presidential Election this year.

The Senate Committee on Agriculture favors some form of Fertility Bank which would put from \$400,000,000 to more than one billion dollars additional cash into the pockets of the American farmers who withdraw production of acres in crops now surplus.

After submitting his proposal to the Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, the Secretary will fly to Key West, Florida and present his plan to the President.

The President's 7,500 word State of the Union message will be read by the Clerk today.

January 6, 1955

The President in his message to Congress outlined a program which out deals the "Old New Deal." The Republican Members were not jubilant over the

many progressive proposals outlined in this very political speech. The President covered everything on the waterfront, and to me was a clear notification of his intention to make the race for re-election. I was called upon by the newspapers in my District and State to issue a statement as to my impression of the President's State of the Union message.

In substance I stated that: In order for our Country to survive we must remain strong spiritually, economically and militarily. Every proposal offered by the President in his message today along this line will be supported wholeheartedly by the majority of the Members of the House. The principal industry in the District that I have the pleasure to represent is Agriculture and I certainly agree with the President's statement that our farm people are not sharing as they should in the general prosperity of this country. It is true that our farmer has seen his income decline and that he is undergoing a price cost squeeze. There is no better time than the present to take immediate action to remedy this situation and I hope that President Eisenhower will succeed in convincing Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra T. Benson, that the farmer in this country is not to blame for the surplus commodities on hand, and for the situation confronting Agriculture,



generally. It is true that in the successful prosecution of war the farmer in this country always produces when called upon by the President of the United States. This happened during World War II and also during the War in Korea, and I certainly was glad to hear the President's statement to this effect. All proposals submitted by the President calling for immediate action for conservation of our Natural Resources and School Building Construction were well received by the Members. I had hoped that the President would also point out our need for certain Public Works projects and Flood Control projects in this country and especially those projects pertaining to rivers and harbors. In attempting to fill the foreign aid pipeline this year, I predict that much more attention will be given to our own public Works projects than to some that will be requested for foreign countries. A number of worthwhile proposals were submitted to Congress in the President's message and I sincerely believe that all of same will be well received by Congress.

January 9, 1955

Just before the First Session of the 84th Congress closed, Senate Resolution 145 was adopted. It directs the Senate to hang medallion likenesses of its five greatest Members in the five

unfilled spaces in the Senate Hall of Fame. This is the Reception Room just outside the Chamber. Under this resolution one Member is to be selected each Congress, therefore, the Senate will have ten years to make the five selections. I would select in the order enumerated, the following: Daniel Webster of Massachusetts, a Whig; Henry Clay of Kentucky, a whig; John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, a Democrat; Edward Dickerson Baker of Oregon, a Republican; Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri, a Democrat. Webster of course, is the greatest statesman and orator. Henry Clay the great lawyer and compromiser. Calhoun the great statesman and legislator, Baker the Senator-Colonel in the Union forces during the Civil War who laid down his life on the bluff above the Potomac River, less than 25 miles from the Capitol and Benton, the voice of the West in the Senate for a quarter of a century.

The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have sent to Congress a request for a two-million dollar increase in the Federal payment to the District. A great many people in the District of Columbia believe the Government is not bearing its share of the burden at the present. In fact, a great many of these people believe that they are rendering the Government of the United States a great service by living

in the District working at something that might be incidental to the functioning of the Federal Government. These people also believe that taxes should be low in the District and in fact, the Federal Government should carry all of the expense notwithstanding the fact that the highest per capita income in the world is located in the District of Columbia.

Nationalism in Africa took another significant stride as the new year opened. Sudan, a country three times as large as Egypt with a population of nine million, took full control of its own affairs on New Year's Day. Egypt has ruled in Sudan since 1899.

Eight Senators and Representatives have served a total of 276 continuous years. They are Senator George, 33 years, Senator Hayden, 28 years, Representative Rayburn, 42 years, Representative Vinson, 41 years, Representative Reed, 36 years, Representative Taber, 32 years, Representative Celler, 32 years, and Representative Cannon, 32 years.

January 10, 1955

Yesterday President Eisenhower's message on Agriculture was read to the House. The President is requesting Congress to approve a nine point farm program utilizing crop reduction and

surplus disposal in order to restore prosperity to Agriculture. The 6,000 word message reaffirmed the present Administration's stand in so far as flexible price supports are concerned and the President included a recommendation for a Soil Bank System. The Soil Bank Program would consist of two parts -- 1. Acreage Reserve and 2. Conservation Acreage Program. Under the acreage reserve the farmer would withdraw from production land ordinarily used to produce crops that are now surplus and in turn for this action would receive Commodity Credit Certificates calling for withdrawal of the Surplus Commodities which could be consumed or sold by the farmer. Under the conservation, attempt would be made to withdraw from production some 24 million acres of land turning same into woodland reservations and permanently take same out of production. We would have cash payments with the President's proposal calling for 350 million dollars the first year and an expenditure of one billion dollars for the following three year period.

The Courier Journal of Louisville, Kentucky again called and wanted my opinion as to the President's message. I gave them a statement that reads as follows: "During the first session of the 84th Congress I cast the vote of the Second District for fixed price supports at 90 percent of parity. I am

still for parity at 90 percent and in fact I am for full parity. I realize full well that our farmers are not sharing as they should in the general prosperity of this country and I certainly agree with President Eisenhower that no problem before the present session of Congress is more urgent than the paradox facing our farm families. The President's message on Agriculture contains several proposals which I can support whole heartedly.

Believing as I do in fixed price supports, I also know that immediate action is required to help the farmer, therefore, I shall support any legislation which will stabilize agriculture costs and eliminate the present price cost squeeze. This legislation must also provide for orderly disposal for our surplus commodities, and place agriculture on the same plane with our other industries which are prospering at the present time.

This problem is not a political football and should not be used as such. Both parties have kicked it around long enough. Now is the time for bipartisan action which will benefit the farmer.

If we adopt legislation which eliminates the parity system then it is imperative that the interest of the little farmer be protected. Then as pointed out by the President, a limit

should be placed on the price support loans for any one individual or farming unit. Again I want to state that the farmer is not to blame for present agricultural prices and for the surplus commodities on hand. This problem can be solved and there is no time like the present."

Yesterday afternoon when we adjourned, a Democratic caucus was held at which time Thaddeus M. Machrowiez of Michigan was nominated, unanimously, to fill the vacancy on the Committee of Ways and Means brought about by the death of John Dingell, Sr., of Michigan. As soon as the nomination was made Speaker Rayburn made a fine statement concerning the Democratic Party and its duty at the present time to our Nation. Since we are the Majority Party we naturally have a great deal of responsibility regardless of the occupant of the White House. The Speaker made a statement which was right unusual and that was in effect that our 29 majority would be doubled in his opinion next November. In 1936 the Republicans had only 89 Members of the 435. Twelve of the total were either Independents or some other party and the balance was Democrats. For years the people of this country have clearly demonstrated that regardless of the White House that they wanted the Democrats in charge of Congress. The President's message on the State of the Union outlined proposals

on taxes -- delay tax cuts for individuals, pending study of the Government's income prospects. Extend excises, and corporation income taxes, at present levels for another year.

2. For Farmers -- Boost farm income with "soil bank" payments' surplus-disposal plans; aids for individual corps.

3. About Floods, Schools, Highways, set up experimental program of flood and storm insurance. Start a 10-year, 25 billion dollar highway program. Approve a five-year plan for Federal aid to schools.

4. For Defense Keep armed forces at planned strength about 2.8 million. Continue Federal power to ration materials in emergency.

5. On Foreign Aid and Trade -- Approve U.S. membership in the Organization for Trade Cooperation. Simplify customs procedures. Authorize long-range projects for aid in underdeveloped countries.

6. For Health -- Increase funds for medical research teaching. Provide Federal reinsurance of voluntary health insurance. Help more old people get health insurance.

7. On Housing -- Approve 70,000 public housing units for next two fiscal years. Amend housing laws to help older people get homes. Liberalize FHA loans for permanent improvements to homes.

8. On Other Issues -- Extend Social Security to more people. Broaden coverage of minimum wage law. Grant statehood to Hawaii, work toward statehood for Alaska. Liberalize immigration laws, rules for

entry of visitors to U.S. Modernize post offices, raise postal rates. Raise pay of Federal executives.

On January 5, we had the President's State of the Union message and again the Courier of Louisville, Kentucky called and wanted a statement. I gave them a statement at that time and subsequent to this statement received a letter from J. Edgar Arnold, Jr., Managing Editor of the Madisonville Messenger, of Madisonville, Kentucky which reads as follows:

"Dear Congressman Natcher,

In a year when politics is the rule and often takes precedence over the welfare of the nation, it is certainly refreshing to read your comments on President Eisenhower's State of the Union message. Your reaction to the President's message was certainly the reaction of a statesman interested first in the welfare of his State and Nation. As an American first, a Kentuckian second and Democrat third, I salute you. Dad and I certainly enjoyed talking to you on your recent visit to Madisonville. I wonder if you could send us a picture or mat of yourself for our files. We seem to have misplaced the one we had. Again may I commend you for your statesman's attitude toward the problems of our Nation and State.



Kindest personal regards, (signed)  
Ed.

I certainly appreciate the above  
letter.

January 10, 1956

Representative Sterling Cole,  
Republican of New York, made a speech  
on the floor of the House yesterday  
and stated emphatically that it was  
not to the best interest of the  
country for President Eisenhower to  
attempt a second term. He stated that  
he spoke in opposition to those who  
were urging the President, regardless  
of his present health, to seek a second  
term, and that the Nation should be  
content with forty-one years of a man's  
life in public office and not demand  
all of it. He further stated that it  
was with great sorrow that he contem-  
plated the greed of some people, and no  
matter how great a man's service, or how  
much of his life had previously been  
given to the public weal, there were  
those greedy people who would still  
demand more.

The good Congressman was immediately  
taken to task by Senator Saltonstall,  
Republican of Massachusetts, and  
Senator Thye, Republican of Minnesota.

The good Congressman from New York was ever so sincere in his remarks about our great President, but it just so happened that every Member in the House knows exactly why the remarks were made. This speech was from the bottom of a heart containing revenge and bitterness. Congressman Cole, through his long service in the House and his fine leadership as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Committee, was in line for Comptroller General last year, and, with his heart set on this appointment, was positive that same would come through. The President saw fit to give this appointment to another distinguished Republican, and since that date Representative Cole has been in favor of retiring the President.

Virginia voters yesterday approved the Gray Plan by a vote of two to one. The legislature will be called back into session immediately and a Constitutional convention will be set up with the Convention expected to turn the public school system of Virginia into a private school tuition grant basis, thereby, avoiding the Supreme Court decision with regard to segregation.

January 11, 1955

As a Member of the Committee on Appropriations, I serve on three

Subcommittees. Agricultural Appropriations, Foreign Aid Appropriations, and District of Columbia Budget Appropriations.

Each year in considering the budget offered by the three Commissioners of the District, considerable attention is given to the amounts requested for Law Enforcement. This action is reasonable when you consider the fact that Washington is probably the most wicked city in the world. Some of the most horrible crimes committed in the world are committed here. While serving as prosecutor in Kentucky, I was forced to extradite a great number of felons from the District. The population in the District at the present time is about 57 percent colored and 43 percent white. The Chief of Police, Robert V. Murray, is an outstanding law enforcement officer and during my tenure as a Member of the Committee on Appropriations, the Chairman of my Subcommittee on District of Columbia has requested that I pay special attention to the matter of law enforcement and the amounts requested for the Courts and Police Department and all divisions of the District Government pertaining to Law and order. I am definitely of the opinion that the Police Department is rendering a splendid service. According to newspaper release today, the Chief of Police

states that 18,592 serious crimes were committed during the year 1955 as compared with 19,055 during the year 1954. In December of this year, there were 1,567 serious offenses committed, which was 290 less than in December 1954. Serious crimes in the District dropped 2.4 percent during the year 1955. At the time of our Hearings this year we will ascertain as to whether or not adequate funds are requested and set up in the budget for law enforcement in the District.

January 13, 1956

President Eisenhower's message yesterday proposed a Federal Aid program to bring about the construction of some 410,000 new classrooms in the next five years. The President suggested that the sum of \$1,250,000,000 be appropriated, and that Federal funds should be distributed among the States according to relative need. The matching formula would be worked out so that the poorer States would get proportionately more Federal money, and the wealthier States proportionately less.

At the beginning of this Administration our good President had a favorite expression which he called "Creeping Socialism", and from time to time used same. His proposal concerning aid to education cannot be

classified as "Creeping Socialism" from the Republican viewpoint, and I presume that same would be Progressive Dynamic Republicanism.

I certainly favor any and all measures providing for aid to States for school building construction.

According to my first Whip Notice of the year, next week we will have only a few veterans bills up for consideration and joint resolutions.

January 14, 1956

I have this day received a notice from the Tennessee Valley Authority of Knoxville, Tennessee with the admonition attached, that the following material must not be published or broadcast in any form until the President's Budget message is delivered to Congress and released to the press about noon Monday, January 16. This is right unusual procedure due to the fact that all matters set forth in the budget are of a confidential nature and are never released in any form prior to the President's message.

According to this release the President's budget for 1957 provides for a new appropriation for T.V.A. of \$5,357,000 with \$3,500,000 of this amount to be used to begin construction of a new unit, which by the way is the

fourth unit, at the John Sevier Steam Plant with this being the first new start for T.V.A. in nearly three years.

Last year T.V.A. requested funds for six additional units with a capacity for 900,000 kilowatts. None were approved and instead the President of the United States forced the Atomic Energy Commission to enter into the Dixon-Yates contract which was later repudiated by the Federal Government. This is really a change of policy on the part of this Administration and simply leaves me flabbergasted.

As a Member of the Committee on Appropriations and especially since I am a Member of the Subcommittee on Foreign Aid, I am definitely against any legislation which attempts to bind this country for a ten year period of time to a Foreign Aid Program or for any period of time of more than one year. I am definitely of the opinion that Congress must keep the Foreign Aid Program flexible and must retain the right to decide on a yearly basis the amount of aid it thinks should be provided, who will get the assistance, and the type of projects to be built with this money.

January 16, 1956

We will receive the President's Budget message today and shortly

thereafter a copy of the printed budget will be distributed to the Members. I hope that construction money for Rough River Reservoir is set forth in the budget together with the small amount for planning for one or more of our flood control reservoirs.

Secretary of State Dulles' story in Life Magazine has caused quite an uproar on Capitol Hill. The article states that on three occasions Mr. Dulles with the President's full support walked up to the brink of war -- war in Korea after the truce negotiations had started, Indo-China, and in Formosa. Then the Secretary stated in the article as follows: "You have to take chances for peace just as you must take chances in war. Some say that we were brought to the verge of war. Of course we were brought to the verge of war. The ability to get to the verge without getting into the war is the necessary art. If you cannot master it, you inevitably get into war. If you try to run away from it, if you are scared to go to the brink you are lost..."

It seems to me that Mr. Dulles is now in serious trouble of his own making and such statements will not be received in good honor by the American people.

The question of more atomic bomb tests is up for discussion, and although I hope that there will be many a day before another H. Bomb or a nuclear bomb will be exploded with compares with the test at Eniwetok in 1954, no one in the world can feel secure witnessing tests of this nature, yet the fact remains that as long as Russia continues to experiment along this line and builds up a tremendous war machine, we have no option in this matter other than to continue with our experimentation.

January 17, 1956

We received the budget message of the President yesterday. The Budget proposed by the President for 1957 is a balanced budget and according to the President, he hopes the budget will be in balance by the end of the present fiscal year of 1956. The budget for 1957 provides for budget receipts amounting to \$66,300,000,000 and Budget expenditures of \$65,900,000,000 thereby leaving a budget surplus of \$400,000,000. The President very carefully informed the Congress in his message that although balanced, the margin in the 1957 budget is slim and will call for the utmost cooperation between the executive and legislative branches to prevent increases in expenditures and reductions in receipts that would create a deficit.



I was positive that the President's budget for 1957 would be in balance because believe it or not, the year 1956 is Presidential election year. The present Administration campaigned throughout the United States in 1952 promising a balanced budget and yesterday's message was the first word received by the Congress concerning a balanced budget. The budget submitted to the Congress contained \$583,977,000 for civil works program. In the Second District we are completing two locks, one dam, canalization of Green River and Rough River Reservoir.

The budget message provided for \$1,500,000 for continuation of construction of the Rough River Reservoir and the \$5,360,000 item for advance engineering and design for all the States and territories contains \$50,000 for planning of the Nolin River Reservoir. This is our second flood control Reservoir and upon obtaining the Barren River Number Two Reservoir and the Upper Green Reservoir, we will have completed our series of four. During the month of November when I appeared before the Bureau of the Budget requesting planning money for the Nolin River Reservoir and additional money for the Rough River Reservoir, I felt sure both would be granted.

The Budget contains nothing for the Lower Cumberland River Multi-purpose Dam in the First Congressional District, construction start for Lock and Dam in Louisville of the third District or construction money for the Buckhorn Reservoir in the seventh Congressional District. Our U. S. Senators are very much concerned about the above three and my amendment of \$46,700,000 last year provided for funds for all three of the above with two of the same in the Budget but deleted by my Committee.

The full Committee on Appropriations meets today at 11:30 a.m. to consider section 638 of the Defense Department Appropriations Act. Here we have the question of discontinuance of different agencies in our Armed Services who produce, manufacture and make articles used by the Armed Services, which according to private industry, should be discontinued.

January 18, 1956

My good friend, Representative John McCormack of Massachusetts, our Majority Leader, had requested that I assist him with the Boston, Massachusetts Ropewalk. The Navy makes its own rope and line at this point. Section 638 of the Defense Department's Appropriations

Act made it discretionary with the Committee as to the closing of these projects. There was considerable maneuvering, before this particular one was saved, before the whole Committee.

The Louisville, Kentucky Courier carried an article yesterday entitled, "Clements Says State Shorted on River Funds." The good Senator is very unhappy over the fact that several projects for Kentucky were not included in the Budget. In appearing before the Bureau of the Budget I realized that with this being Budget balancing year I would be fortunate if I secured my two projects. I requested construction money for continuing the Rough River Reservoir in the sum of \$1,500,000 and the necessary planning money for Nolin River Reservoir. My two requests were granted and same were in the Budget.

By the way, the Budget dollar for fiscal year 1957 will be expended as follows: National Security -- 61 cents, interest, finance, grants to States -- 25 cents, other Governmental functions -- 13 cents, and one cent for debt retirement. Our Budget dollar for fiscal year 1957 will be obtained as follows: Individual income taxes -- 48 cents, corporation income taxes -- 30 cents, excise taxes -- 15 cents, customs and other taxes -- seven cents.

The Washington papers contained front page stories seeking support for a \$22,000,000 Federal payment to the District of Columbia. My Subcommittee cut the amount to \$16,000,000 and sustained this action on the Floor of the House and in Conference with the Senate agreed on \$18,000,000. The authorization now stands for \$20,000,000 and additional authorization will be requested for \$22,000,000 payment. George D. Riley speaking for the AFL-CIO appeared before some of the Committees urging that Congress make the necessary payment in lieu of any tax increases other than levies on property. I presume that when our Hearings start we will hear quite a bit from labor concerning this matter.

Secretary of State Dulles is still insisting that Congress provide the necessary authority to make long term Foreign Aid Commitments in order to compete successfully with Russia's aid offers and especially in Asia. When my Subcommittee on Foreign Aid begins its Hearings, I feel sure that the good Secretary will have a lot to say to us along this line.

We are very much interested in Flood Control and Soil Conservation in this country today. We were not as conscious of the importance of these two projects until recently. It seems

that an Indian in the State of New Mexico was the winner of a contest with this essay. Here is what he says: "White man crazy. Cut down trees, make big tepee. Plow hill. Water wash. Wind blow soil. Grass gone. Door gone. Window gone. Whole place gone. No pigs. No corn. No hay. No pony. Indians no plow corn. Keep grass. Buffalo eat grass. Indian eat buffalo. Hide make tepee. Make moccasin. Indian no make terrace. No build dam. All time eat. No hunt job. No hitchhike. No ask relief. No shoot pig. Great Spirit make grass. Indian no waste anything. Indian no work. "White Man Loco."

January 23, 1956

During the past week the senate wrestled around with the Natural Gas Act of 1955. This bill is known as the Fullbright-Harris Bill and attempts to exempt independent producers of natural gas from Federal regulation. I voted against this bill in the House and believe that the Democrats are giving the Republicans a fine campaign issue for 1956. Personally, I think the Supreme Court decision is correct in this matter and the State of Texas is the "tail wagging the dog."

This week's Saturday Evening Post carried the first of a series of six

stories written by retired General Matthew Ridgeway, our ex-Army Chief of Staff. General Ridgeway complains bitterly about the Army manpower reduction of approximately one-third and reduction of appropriations to the Department of the Army from some \$17 billion to \$8½ billion. This is the first time to my knowledge that a critic of the President was actually on the inside with the experience and knowledge of the size of the Soviet threat and still not overpowered by President Eisenhower's record of having won the world's biggest campaign, with the largest joint task force of land, sea and air power ever assembled.

Budget Director Hughes resigned this past week and he is being succeeded by Assistant Director of the Budget P. F. Brundage. It is possible that the new Director may be a little more liberal in so far as the farmer is concerned and also in so far as small business and our public works are concerned.

In the ten fiscal years since the end of World War II our Government has spent a total of \$12,091,000,000 more than it has taken in. Our debt service has risen from \$5,188,000,000 in fiscal year 1947 to \$7,066,000,000 in fiscal year 1957.

In addition to my Subcommittee on Agricultural Appropriations meeting today, I will have a meeting of our Subcommittee on the District of Columbia. A supplemental request for \$34,000 comes before the Subcommittee and if granted will be used to pay additional election expenses involved in voting for the delegates to the two National Conventions to be held in August of this year.

January 24, 1956

Yesterday my Subcommittee on the District of Columbia Budget met ~~for~~ for the purpose of considering request for \$43,500 to be used to pay election expenses for the May election of delegates to the national conventions. For a great number of years the people here in the District have requested Home Rule and last year the bill that passed Congress provided for the election of residents of the District for delegates to the National Conventions. I was very much surprised to learn that only 1,500 people have registered to vote and that a total of 40 or 50 thousand was expected by the Commissioners of the District. There are 540,000 eligible voters in the District but only a handful seem to want to vote. This certainly is contrary to all the hullabaloo that we have heard for years about Home Rule.

I asked one of the Commissioners privately about this matter and he informed me that since the voters would have to indicate party preference, that this has stopped thousands from indicating their desire to vote. Thousands of residents of the District do not want to be classified by Party preference.

January 25, 1956

General Ridgeway in a second article in the Saturday Evening Post criticizes Secretary of Defense Wilson as follows: "After each exchange of views I came away convinced that either the Secretary was a man whose mental processes operated on a level of genius so high I could not grasp his meaning, or that considerations beyond the ken of a soldier's logic were influencing his thinking."

The former Chief of Staff stated that it was a most dangerous doctrine to rely on massive bombing alone to defeat the Soviet and Chinese Communist empires in war and sets forth the following three reasons as to why this system alone would fail.

1. Neither Russia nor China has yet developed into a complex industrial society that would be vulnerable to nuclear weapons.



2. Mass destruction "is repugnant to the ideals of a Christian nation."

3. If nuclear weapons, however, have to be used in retaliation against an attack, the foot soldier is needed to move in to destroy the enemy, seize the ground, and restore order.

I presume that General Ridgeway would join MacArthur on the shelf reserved for "old soldiers who never die, but just fade away."

Each year my Subcommittee on Agriculture Appropriations makes an investigation of the divisions of the Department of Agriculture, ascertaining just how the appropriated money is spent and the results of the expenditure. We have issued a report of our investigation for 1955 and same is right critical of certain divisions of the Department. For instance, the Secretary complains about the expenditure of \$1,000,000 per day for storage costs for surplus commodities and our investigation discloses the fact that preference has been shown certain warehouses to the financial detriment of this country.

January 27, 1956

I was reappointed as a Member of the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy by Speaker Rayburn.

In addition to my appointment, the other Members named were Representative Lankford of Maryland, Representative Jonas, Republican of North Carolina, and Representative Hand, Republican of New Jersey. The Republicans changed their Members. We will make our annual inspection trip during the month of April. In addition to the inspection of the Physical Plant, we go over the curriculum and make any and all necessary recommendations. An addition to Bancroft Hall, new air facilities, and 60.5 acres land fill improvements along the Severn are the important physical plant problems at the present time. The land fill operation will cost some \$7,700,000, and figures about \$165,000 an acre.

Two additional announcements make the total fourteen, for Members who will not seek re-election. Thor Tollefson will seek the nomination for Governor. Elmer J. Holland, Democrat of Pennsylvania was elected to fill the unexpired term of Vera D. Buchanan. Representative Harold H. Velde, Republican of Illinois and former Chairman of the House Unamerican Activities Committee announced that he would not seek re-election. Woodrow Jones of North Carolina told me yesterday that he would not seek re-election. It now appears that Representative Pat Kearny, Republican of New York has changed his mind

about retiring and is back in the running.

This Eisenhower Administration really puzzles me at times. The Stock Market is off a few points and the President indicates an interest. Bingo, up she goes the next day. Hog prices jump an average of 50 to 75 cents a 100 lbs. yesterday, making a fourth straight day advance. The present Administration is under fire from the standpoint of Agriculture and Bingo, hog prices jump up to \$14.75, a price which is the best for hogs since October 18, 1955. A year ago hogs were selling for \$18.25.

Sir Anthony Eden arrives in this country on Monday of next week for a formal conference with President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles. On Thursday of next week, Sir Anthony will address the House at 1:00 p.m.

January 28, 1956

We take up for consideration on Monday, H.R. 8787, an act to amend the internal revenue cut pertaining to exemption for the farmer of Federal gasoline tax for fuel consumed on the farm. This bill will be brought up under Suspension of Rules.

The School Construction Bill is still before the Rules Committee and is

being examined, by. If the Powell Amendment is provided in States permitting segregation, in my opinion, this bill will die in the Senate.

Everyone is talking about the likelihood of President Eisenhower running for re-election. One week I am positive he is a candidate and the next week I change my mind. According to his last statement to the press, I have my doubts that he is a candidate and in this statement he said that no member of his family was objecting to his running for re-election and this to me was simply laying the ground work for announcement that he will not run and this, his decision is not controlled by the members of his family.

A highway construction authorization bill was introduced this week and the necessary tax bill should go before the Ways and Means Committee within the next few days. This is important legislation and I hope that we can pass a good bill during this present session.

Most Members of the Senate Agriculture Committee favor a fixed support level of 90% parity for cotton, wheat, corn, rice, and peanuts.

This past week the Senate agreed to a Conference Report which would

increase the Disaster Loan Fund for the Small Business Administration by \$100 million.

January 30, 1956

The Soviet Union made an attempt last week to revive the Geneva Spirit by proposing a bilateral treaty of friendship and cooperation with the United States. This proposal was politely refused by our President. Such a treaty according to the President might work against the cause of peace by creating the illusion that a stroke of a pen had achieved a result which in fact can be obtained only by a change of spirit.

Representative Vinson, Democrat of Georgia, serving his 42nd year in the House offered a constitutional amendment last week providing that the states have a right to manage their internal affairs. This amendment simply affirms principals of constitutional government and will attempt to correct the Supreme Court's decision which overturned at one fell swoop by judicial fiat doctrines and principals of constitutional law which have become part of our constitution.

The wedding announcement of Grace Kelley, the beautiful movie actress from Philadelphia to Prince Rainer III

of Monaco, which will take place in April of this year has created quite a sensation. The Prince rules over a small portion of this peninsula with his monarchy containing less than 300 acres and with the sole income derived from the gambling casinos.

Poor old Ezra T. Benson has committed another unforgivable blunder. It seems that one of the Administrative Assistants answered a letter concerning a recent article in Harper's Magazine and the letter was signed with the Secretary of Agriculture's name. The letter from the Secretary's office read --"I have read the article by John Fisher in the December issue of Harper's with a great deal of interest. It is excellent." It just so happens that the article provided in part, that the farmer was described as a pampered tyrant and was accused of being eager to sell his vote to the highest bidder. A further reference was made to the hogs jowls in the feed trough with no desire to cease.

January 31, 1956

Congressman Usher L. Burdick, Republican of North Dakota, is quite a character. This past year he was married for the third time. The good lady was serving as a secretary in one of the offices here on the Hill. When

Congress adjourned the Congressman and Mrs. Burdick returned to the North Dakota Ranch owned by the Congressman and while riding a Western Horse, Mrs. Burdick was thrown and died as a result of a broken neck. Congressman Burdick is serving his 8th term in the House and is considered a right independent Republican. Yesterday the good Congressman extended his remarks in the Record as follows: "Mr. Speaker, through sickness and otherwise, the President has had a hard time of it for the past few months. He will completely recover from his sickness, but I doubt that his worries will end.

"Many members of his Cabinet seem to be suffering from the hoof-and-mouth disease, and it is apparently spreading. Defense Secretary Wilson led off in his speech in Chicago -- spoke entirely out of turn and expressed his own views and not those of the President. That simmered down, but not until the damage removed some Republican Members of Congress.

"Along comes Dulles and authors an article he never saw or read which appeared in Life Magazine, telling how we had been on the brink of war many times, but that through dextrous handling and political jujitsu he had avoided war as often as it was threatened, and a general "hoorah" for

Dulles. Another storm broke, and through the heroism of the editor of Life, Mr. Luce, who assumed all the blame, the administration ship righted itself and started to sail again. This course was short lived, however, because another administration officer who had neither written nor read an article appearing in Harper's stating that support prices were the bunk, sent in a letter stating that the article was excellent.

"Benson had trouble before sporting around with sliding scales and Senator Aiken, but this last blast shook the Federal buildings in Washington. The President, speaking in the last campaign, said that the farmers were entitled to 90 percent of parity, and that they could count on him to maintain support prices, and now his Secretary of Agriculture settles the whole farm question in a hurry, and the article says the support program is out.

"There is one redeeming feature about Benson's blunder. He admitted it and took full responsibility. That only confirms what I think of him. He is a very nice, honest man, much better than the usual run of Secretaries, but his knowledge of what to do to straighten out agriculture is on a par with what I know about the hereafter.



"These Secretaries seem to have contracted the dreaded foot-and-mouth disease, because every time they open their mouth they get their foot in it. In this political fly time the President should insist that the Secretaries wear muzzles, and I doubt that the muzzles would stop the appearance of letters in the magazines under the name of a Secretary who never saw or read or signed the publication. That presents a mysterious situation. In my small way I have been correctly quoted, misquoted, and had my statements rewritten until I could not recognize them but I never have yet seen an article in any magazine attributed to me which I did not write, did not read, and did not sign. Gosh. This Secretary business is dangerous, when a Secretary cannot tell from one minute to the next what he will say when he has not said anything. The magazines should be fair enough to permit any Secretary to read what he is about to say. I just would not have anything to do with a magazine which would not let me see what it had concocted. If he cannot read, let someone read it to him. This promiscuous appearance of articles and letters emanating from the administration headquarters ought to be approved by somebody before the publication comes out.

"I think the President will survive his heart trouble if the situation is not aggravated, but the action of these promiscuous statements appearing in magazines, which the President knows nothing about, will give a well man thrombosis of the heart, liver, or any other vital organ."

February 3, 1956

British Prime Minister Anthony Eden addressed the House yesterday offering a three point program to offset Russia's present threat. To meet this threat Sir Anthony thought that our alliances and friendships should be firmly and loyally maintained, and we should declare our unity of purpose in troubled areas throughout the world, extending economic aid to needy areas of the world, extending economic aid to needy areas of the world where necessary. One statement that he made which suprised me considerably was the fact that Great Britain no longer needed United States economic aid, and, apart from a measure of defense aid, Britain was now able to stand on her own feet, and that he wanted to "lay the ghost" once and for all that the purpose of his trip to this country was to again demand foreign aid money.

I enjoyed the Prime Minister's speech, and although he is not in the

class with Winston Churchill, in my opinion, is one of the able diplomats of today.

The President received another note from Soviet Premier Bulganin yesterday delivered in person by the Russian Ambassador. In this note the Premier charges us with having increased tension since the Summit Meeting at Geneva, and that with our request for deeds instead of words before any new compact would be signed the shoe was on the other foot, and that we should back up our declarations with deeds instead of creating tension. He pointed out the fact that our military appropriations are increasing and the number of American military bases in foreign territories has been increased. One statement that he made pertained to Members of Congress making statements contrary to the spirit of Geneva.

Today before my full Committee on Appropriations I took charge of a supplemental request for District of Columbia Budget and will place same on the floor. As a Member of Subcommittees on my Committee on Appropriations I have never before had the honor of taking a bill through the Committee and on the floor. My Chairman of this particular subcommittee, Louis Rabaut, of Michigan was unable to attend the

hearing, and for that reason designated me to handle same. This particular bill provides for an urgent deficiency appropriation for \$43,500 to be used in setting up an Election Commissioner Board, Registration Office, records and voting paraphernalia to be used in the May 1, 1956 election in the District for delegates to the respective National Conventions, as provided for under Public Law 376 passed during the First Session of this Congress. This amount is reasonable and the vote on May 1 will be the first vote in the District for eighty years. I was amazed at the fact that only some 1,700 people had registered to vote after over two months of registration when for years and years the plea has been for home rule here in the District. There are 583,000 eligible voters over twenty-one years of age residing in the District, but only 240,000 are expected to register and vote on May 1st. When I pointed out this fact to the full Committee same was received with very much interest.

The contents of a bill providing for a reshuffling of the counties in the eight Congressional Districts of Kentucky was released to the press yesterday, and will be introduced shortly. Under this bill, Union and Hopkins Counties in my District are

placed in the First Congressional District, and Ohio and Butler come back into my District, and another County to come in is Hart County from the Fourth Congressional District. Governor Chandler's home county of Woodford goes out of the Fourth and into the Sixth. Joe Bates home county of Greenup goes back to the Seventh District from the Fifth, and Congressman Perkins' home county of Knott is transferred to the Republican Eighth District, thereby moving Congressman Perkins out of his Congressional District. The change in my District, if adopted, places Union in the First Congressional District. Therefore, one Congressional District in Kentucky will have both United States Senators at the present time.

When called upon by the Press for comment, I stated that I had no comment.

February 4, 1956

John Sherman Cooper presented secret recommendations to President Eisenhower on Wednesday of this week for a new program of American political and economic action for India. The Ambassador stated that he had no intention of running for the Senate again. The following day he shook hands with Senator Barkley who, in turn,

informed the Ambassador that he should thank the good Senator every time he saw him because as a result of his defeat for the Senate he succeeded in gaining the Ambassadorship to India and a fine wife.

Governor Paul L. Patterson of Oregon, who was the top choice of Republican Party Leaders to unseat ex-Republican, now Democrat, Wayne Morse, died of a heart attack on Wednesday of this week. This man probably is the only man who could have unseated the Senator at this time.

February 6, 1956

So far this session we have failed to pass any major legislation. Today we passed H.R. 5948, a bill to amend the Clayton Act by prohibiting the acquisition of assets of other banks by banks, banking associations, or trust companies when the effect may be substantially to lessen competition, or to tend to create a monopoly.

With the exception of a few minor bills pertaining to veteran's legislation and the gasoline exemption of \$.02 per gallon to farmers and the bill passed today, no legislation has been brought to the Floor of the House of any consequence.

We are still waiting for the School Construction bill and a Highway Construction Bill.

Joe B. Bates, former Representative from Greenup, Kentucky, announced for the United States Senate on Saturday of last week for the seat now held by Senator Earle C. Clements. A portion of Mr. Bates statement provides as follows:

"I am a candidate for the United States Senate to bring back to Kentucky the seat lost to Texas in 1950. I realize that Texas is big, has a variety of interests, a many sided population, and I am personally very fond of the Texas people. But, I am unwilling for Texas to have three Senators and Kentucky only one since it is provided that each state have two--no more, no less."

It was presumed that the re-districting bill introduced late today in the House of Representatives in Kentucky would solve the political situation but apparently this is not true due to the fact that Joe Bates announced for the Senate.

Fourteen year old George L. Wright, III won \$100,000 on a television program, "The Big Surprise," over N.B.C. by identifying the song,

"Me and My Shadow" and by singing a chorus of the song. Here is another example of a tremendous television program spending hundreds of thousands of dollars advertising a commodity with the sole result being that the consumer is burdened with the cost and the manufacturer is permitted to write off nearly all of the expenditure in an income tax reduction. The consumers in our cities are blaming the farmer in all matters pertaining to food and the above event is just one of many which could be used to disprove this accusation.

February 9, 1956

The Kentucky Senate passed a bill yesterday advancing the Primary Election day from the first Saturday in August to the first Tuesday after the fourth Monday in May. This bill eliminates a great deal of hot weather campaigning and in my opinion permits the parties to heal their wounds before presenting the issues to the people in the November Campaign.

I testified before the Tobacco Subcommittee of the Committee on Agriculture and had previously introduced a Joint Resolution providing for the restoration of the 15 percent burley cut ordered by the Secretary of Agriculture on November 30, 1955 for the



year 1956. A portion of my testimony was as follows: "An orderly removal of present surplus stocks can be carried out if the 1955 allotments are retained."

"Total sales of manufactured tobacco products during the past eight months have increased and, under the present statutory formula, burley-tobacco stocks may increase accordingly without any disastrous effect.

"The tobacco program always has paid its way and this is why it has a 90 percent of parity price support. Tobacco products bring in \$2,500,000,000 in taxes yearly.

"The net income of the farmer in my State for 1955 was off well over \$100,000,000. "Parity is 80 percent today, and in 1951 it was 113 percent. The net income of the American farmer for 1947 was \$16,000,000,000 and for 1955 it was \$10,600,000,000. The total farm debt in Kentucky has increased more than 100 percent in the past 10 years.

"Farmers in my District are today selling parts of their land to escape a steadily mounting burden of debt."

Immediately after the Members of the House from the tobacco States and the Senators testified, the Subcommittee

unanimously reported out a bill restoring the cut and the same action was taken by the Senate Committee on Agriculture. We expect to pass this bill in the House and Senate within the next few days and same will mean a great deal to my District and State.

The political pot continues to boil in Kentucky, and as one of our poets said many years ago, "politics are the damnedest in Kentucky."

February 10, 1956

Cornelius McGillicuddy (Connie Mack), who helped pioneer baseball from the sandlots to the Number 1 sport in the Nation, died yesterday at the age of 93. If there ever was a man who could be called Mr. Baseball, this was the gentleman.

The redistricting measure passed the House by a vote of 71 to 13 in Kentucky with five Democrats opposing the bill. This bill will be up for action in the Senate next Tuesday, at which time several amendments will be offered. Governor Chandler indicated yesterday in a news release that he would back Joe B. Bates, former Congressman, against Senator Earle C. Clements for the United States Senatorial race.

The old Truman-MacArthur controversy exploded with fury yesterday. Harry Truman asserted that he fired General MacArthur as Far Eastern Commander because MacArthur was guilty of insubordination that threatened to embroil the Nation in an atomic world War III. General MacArthur in his answer charged the former President with spiteful distortion of the truth. The General linked his dismissal with a spy ring reaching into the British Foreign Office and said his savage and brutal dismissal disastrously undercut this country's struggle against world communism.

To this good day the Second Session of the 84th Congress has passed only three bills of any consequence. Annual appropriation bill for Treasury and Post Office Department, urgent deficiency Appropriation bill, and tax measure giving the Farmers of America an additional income tax deduction for gasoline consumed on the farm.

February 11, 1956

Representative Chauvey W. Reed, 65, Republican of Illinois and a Member of the House for 21 years, died in the Naval Hospital at Bethesda on February 9. Congressman Reed had been in ill health for some time and when I was first elected to Congress he was

Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. I was very fond of Mr. Reed and he had a lot of friends in the House.

David Lawrence, editor of the U.S. News and World Report, in his syndicated column stated yesterday that the Nation might as well prepare for the news that President Eisenhower will say he doesn't feel equal to running again. According to David Lawrence the President has been trying to soften the impact of his announcement but the answer will still be no. For a number of weeks I felt the same way but believe now that the President will be a candidate for re-election.

Postmaster General Summerfield will present to the Congress shortly, a request for an increase in first, second and third class mail. The postmaster contends that we are operating at a deficit of some \$200,000,000 a year and that for the past ten years the Post Office Department has lost some five billion dollars. The Postmaster General will make the request: 3¢ letter to 4¢; raise the 6¢ air mail to 7¢; raise second class mail, mainly newspapers and magazines, 30 percent, and raise third class mail, mainly advertising matter, 30 percent.

By vote of 12 to 3 the Senate Committee on Agriculture voted out the

Agriculture Bill providing for fixed price supports at 90 percent of parity and incorporating in this bill nearly all of the President's Soil Bank Acreage proposal. I predict that a battle will take place on the Floor of the Senate over the deletion of the flexible price supports.

The State Senate of Kentucky will convene at 11:00 a.m. today to pass upon the redistricting bill passed by the House. According to yesterday's Courier Journal a three way race in the First District is possible if the County of Logan is permitted to remain out of the Second District. Former Lieutenant Governor Beauchamp and State Senator Wayne Freeman of Mayfield are contemplating running against Congressman Noble J. Gregory unless acceptable amendments are adopted. This matter has reached the ugly stage and regardless of personalities at the present time, the Democratic Party in Kentucky will be called up for judgment in November in the not too distant future and will be found wanting. It simply means that a Republican candidate for Senator and Governor will have a much better showing in the future. Destruction of majorities in closely knit counties in each of the eight Congressional Districts to revenge individuals today simply causes injury to our party tomorrow.

February 14, 1956

The A.F.L. - C.I.O. Annual Convention is now being held in Miami Beach, Florida and according to conventional report prepared by the Committee on Political Education, the Republican Party will have an edge in the Presidential race even if President Eisenhower does not run. Their reason for same results from a shift in the Party character to provide more appeal for city voters and from their control of communications, press, radio and television.

Ordinarily labor sees the Democratic Party as the winner and I am amazed at such a statement. It is possible that the confidential forecast which was purposely leaked to the press is really designed to keep the Union political leaders on their toes.

The House met today, and with no business to transact, adjourned until Thursday. We are moving along very slowly and it is my opinion that the Second Session of the 84th Congress will have very little to report by way of progress on adjournment date.

The slaughter on our highways each month is appalling. According to the records 38,300 humans were killed by automobiles in 1955 and 1,350,000 others

were injured. It seems that we need better roads, safer vehicles, traveling at a slower rate of speed, and more cautious drivers.

The Kentucky State Senate has before it today the redistricting bill and the Kentucky House of Representatives will consider the new Primary Election bill, recently passed by the Senate. It now develops that the redistricting bill has failed to accomplish its purpose and is bringing the roof down on some of its premeditators.

Twenty days from today the Nation will know whether President Eisenhower will seek another term in the White House. He is being examined today by his team of doctors to determine more or less finally, the ability of his damaged heart to stand the work of Chief Executive. Tomorrow he will fly to Georgia for a holiday to decide for himself if he wants to tackle the job for another four years.

For the past week an alarm spread throughout the Nation's Capital over the United States' failure to keep pace in the arms race with Soviet Russia. It seems that the Russians have fired and tested long-range ballistic missiles hundreds of miles further than anything this country ever tested.

February 22, 1956

On Friday of last week President Eisenhower vetoed the controversial Natural Gas Bill because of the arrogant efforts by a small segment of the industry trying to further their own interest by highly questionable activities. The President based his veto entirely on such activities referring indirectly to the efforts by an oil and gas company lawyer to make a \$2,500 contribution to the campaign fund of Senator Case, Republican of South Dakota.

I voted against the Natural Gas Bill, agreeing with the President's veto.

This veto message confirmed the fact in the minds of many that the President will seek a second term.

We succeeded in passing legislation restoring the 15 percent acreage reduction for Burley Tobacco and legislation restoring the 15 percent and 20 percent acreage reduction for dark fire cured and air cured tobacco. We succeeded in suspending the rules and passing the necessary Joint Resolutions in the House without too much difficulty. With the income in Kentucky being off well over \$100,000,000 per year for farmers, restoration of the acreage



reductions attempted by the Secretary of Agriculture will mean a lot to the farmers in my District.

My Committee on Appropriations approved the Subcommittee report on Interior and related agencies for 1957 and under this Bill Mammoth Cave National Park receives \$358,000 for construction of Public Use Building, \$202,000 for new snowball dining room, underground comfort station, lift and utilities, \$52,300 for improvement of cave wiring and \$93,200 for new roads and trails. These items will improve Mammoth Cave National Park.

One of the items contained in the above bill provides for an appropriation of \$33,712 for construction of the Smithsonian Institution Museum of History and Technology. This new building will be located on the Mall facing Constitution Avenue.

On February 16 I extended my remarks in the Record by entering an article entitled, "Marse Henry and the Old Lady at the Corner." This essay was prepared after some research and commemorates the 116 Anniversary of the birth of Henry Watterson. The Old Lady at the Corner is the Courier Journal of Louisville, Kentucky and this title was given by Henry Watterson in 1908 which was the 40th birthday of

the Louisville Courier Journal. This article was placed in the permanent Record and may be found on page 2386.

The Kentucky legislature adjourned on Saturday after passing the new Redistricting Bill and the new Primary Election Bill. The Primary Election Bill provides for the election to be on the Tuesday following the fourth Monday in May instead of the first Saturday in August. The Legislature will now begin four special sessions and judging from the newspaper editorials and general comments, some disention is now present in Frankfort.

On February 17 the Evening Star carried an editorial entitled, "Feuding in Kentucky." The editorial goes on to state that Joe Bates and Earle Clements are squaring off for a Primary Election and Thruston Morton has resigned as Assistant Secretary of State to enter the Race as Republican candidate for Senator. As pointed out by this editorial Kentucky's politics are usually colorful and seldom are simple.

The President recently created a new National Defense Reserve of key civilian executives to help run the Government in event of war. The new reserve force will draw between three thousand and four thousand top executives into emergency service instantly

in any new general mobilization.

On Thursday of this week we started hearings on the District of Columbia Budget. Last year the Members of this particular Subcommittee were referred to as "Men of Little Vision."

We passed the Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for 1957 today in the House. This bill carries \$426,748,200. In addition to regular amounts for maintenance and up keep, Mammoth Cave National Park in my District received the amounts heretofore set forth for additional construction.

February 25, 1956

For the past two days our Subcommittee on District of Columbia Appropriations has been in Session. The Budget request amounts to some \$189,000,000 which is almost twice the amount of the entire Budget for the State of Kentucky.

My Subcommittee on Agricultural appropriations will finish hearings by March 8.

As a direct result of the Presidential veto of the Gas Bill an eight man Senate Committee has been set up to investigate lobbying and any improper

attempts to influence legislation. The Members of this Committee are McClellan, Gore, Anderson, Kennedy, Bridges, Thye, Goldwater and Purtell.

The Republican State Federal Committee of Kentucky has finally discovered that 56 Counties in Kentucky do not have Government-owned Post Offices and since the United States Senators race is underway great efforts are being made by the Republicans to convince the people of Kentucky that something will be done in this matter.

Several other Members of the House have decided not to be candidates for re-election. Jesse P. Wolcott, who is completing 26 years service on the Hill has decided not to run and Walter Norblad will run for the Office of Governor of the State of Oregon. According to my information Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr. wants to return to the House and if arrangements can be made Irwin D. Davidson may step out and accept a Judgeship.

We are still moving along right slowly in the House. This week we took up bills pertaining to Armed Services Procurement Act of 1947, private calendar, House Resolutions pertaining to the Government Operations Committee,

Small Business Committee and Committee on Banking and Currency, Interior Department Appropriations Bill for 1957, George Washington's Farewell Address on Wednesday and Adjournment on Thursday until Monday.

Next week we take up authorization bill pertaining to the Colorado River Storage Project. The General Government matters of Appropriations will be called up and a Joint Meeting of Congress will be held to hear the President of Italy on Wednesday.

February 29, 1956

Today is a great day for the Republicans in Congress. President Eisenhower announced at 10:30 this morning that he will run for re-election if the Republican Convention wants him. It goes without saying that the Republicans want Eisenhower. I definitely made up my mind several months ago that the President would seek a Second Term and was not at all surprised at his decision. To confirm the fact that the present Administration is a big business Administration, a holiday spirit prevailed on the Stock Market Exchange as prices surged upward. As President Eisenhower's decision to run again was announced cheers and whoops rose above the usual trading noises on the Floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Senator Harley M. Kilgore of West Virginia, a New Deal Democrat who had been in the Senate for 15 years, died on Tuesday of this week. The 63 year old former Judge suffered a Cerebral Hemorrhage during the night and died at 2:23 a.m. He had been a patient at Bethesda Naval Hospital for some two weeks. The Senator was serving his third term, and was considered one of the better Senators.

For the past week my Subcommittee on Agricultural Appropriations and District of Columbia have been meeting. It makes it a little difficult, to attend both Committees. We will have a night Session tomorrow and Friday for the citizens of the District and this will complete Hearings on the District Budget. Our Agricultural Appropriations Bill should be ready for action within the next three weeks.

The Board of Visitors for the Naval Academy begins Monday of next week and continues through March 9. With my Subcommittee meetings, The Jefferson Jackson Day Dinner on Wednesday and the Board of Visitors of Annapolis for five days within the same week, there will be very little time for anything else.

President Giovanni Gronchi, the third President of the Italian Republic

spoke to a Joint Meeting of Congress today. It is rumored that his visit to the United States at the present time was brought about as the result of our Ambassador Claire Booth Luce's poor judgment in the Italian election wherein she was quoted as saying Gronchi's election would not be to the best interest of the United States. The President told Congress that a closer knitting of the Western World in social and economic areas is needed to supplement existing military alliances. He further stated that military cooperation continues to be very important today but it should be supplemented with new and imaginative forms of cooperation.

March 3, 1956

Norris Vincent, County Judge of Daviess County, announced yesterday morning for election as Representative of the Second District of Kentucky. For a number of years he has endeavored to receive the nod from our District and shortly after World War II made a statewide race for U.S. Senator, receiving only a few votes. This is the first time that I have had opposition from either side since I have been a Member of Congress and I am preparing to file my announcement for reelection within the next few days. According to

Mr. Vincent's statement, he expects to have full support from the new State Administration. Any support that he receives from this source will make this race more of a contest. If the State Administration refuses to give any assistance, the people in my District believe that there will be little or no contest as far as Vincent is concerned. I have endeavored to make a good Representative and have worked hard during my short tenure as a Member of the House. I am firmly convinced that the people of my District will reelect me with a nice majority.

Next week two bills from my committee go to the Floor for action; the Board of Visitors for the Naval Academy meet in a five day session; my subcommittees on Appropriations will be in session during this week and on Wednesday night the Jefferson-Jackson Dinner will be held in Louisville, Kentucky. In addition to the above, the Farm Bureau sends its leaders from my District for a conference in Washington this week. I just do not know how I can arrange to leave Washington for the Naval Academy meeting or the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner.

So far, indications are that every Member from the Kentucky delegation in the House will have opposition and with the Congressmen in the District on either



side of me having opposition today I definitely was of the opinion that this was not the year to be unopposed. The redistricting and change of election date of course also play a part in the present election campaign.

March 5, 1956

The Agriculture Department informed us on Friday that the Government's investment in Price Supported Farm Commodities rose to a record \$8,891,280,000 on January 31 an increase of \$225,000,000 over the previous record established in December. The Department also announced that the \$12,000,000,000 borrowing authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation used to carry on Price Support activities has shrunk to 647 million dollars.

The Arab-Isreal situation is serious. It is entirely possible that we may have war at any time at this point.

Since my opponent announced I have received telephone calls, letters, and telegrams from all sections of my District and all reports are excellent in so far as my re-election is concerned.

June 15, 1956

Since March 5th I have suffered from Vincentittis. My wife says that

the good Lord should relieve me of the Vincents before I die. In 1937, H. W. Vincent, the uncle of Norris B. Vincent, ran against me for County Prosecuting Attorney. At five minutes to midnight, the last night for filing, H. W. Vincent filed and the following day instituted a suit against me maintaining that I had moved out of my voting precinct, therefore, was disqualified for making the race. I was on my honeymoon and received telegram to the effect that I not only had opposition but a suit had been filed. I won my suit and the people in Warren County defeated Vincent by an overwhelming majority.

Each weekend since my opponent, Norris B. Vincent filed, I campaigned in Kentucky and on Thursday prior to the May 29th primary flew down for final windup. Vincent received 972 votes in Warren County and I received 6,346. This was a small vote. I carried every precinct in the city and county with all of the precincts totaling 57. In my home precinct of 11th & Magnolia, I received 173 votes and Vincent received 6. In the precinct where my mother and all my people were born, I received 81 votes and Vincent received nothing. Vincent is County Judge of Daviess County and I was exceedingly fortunate in carrying this county by a majority of 301 votes. The people in the 2nd

District of Kentucky were exceedingly good to me. I was nominated with a majority of 11,139.

Many important events have taken place since March 5th.

Representative William T. Granahan, Democrat of Pennsylvania and a veteran of ten years in the House, died during this period of time.

Representative Glenn Davis, a Member of my Committee on Appropriations was selected at the Wisconsin convention to make the race for Senator on the Republican ticket. Senator Wiley was tossed overboard by the Wisconsin Republican old-guard, and much to my surprise President Eisenhower has failed so far to come to the aid and assistance of his true and loyal friend, Senator Wiley. The President took too much for granted when he issued a statement several days ago that he did not think that Senator Wiley expected, or wanted, any support from the Administration in his Wisconsin Primary Election battle.

The House passed the Highway Construction Bill, providing for \$33,400,000,000 for the construction of highways during the next thirteen years. This is the largest road-building bill in history and the final vote was 368 to 19. Under this bill, 41,000 miles of

interstate highways will be modernized together with matching funds provided for primary and secondary roads throughout the States.

The automobile industry is building some 107,000 passenger cars per week and during the same time last year the number was 176,000.

Indonesia's President Sukarno addressed a joint session of Congress during a four day visit. He closely identified himself and Indonesia with American concepts of the value of freedom and justice. He repeatedly pointed out the importance of freedom and democracy at the present time throughout the world.

Kruschev and Bulganin continue their ring-around-the-rosy game with the other countries throughout the world and in order to save face and prevent a revolution within the Soviet Union, are meticulously proceeding to tear down Stalin. Stalin now is classified by these distinguished gentlemen as a murderer and a pervert.

Margaret Truman, the daughter of Harry S. Truman, and E. Clifton Daniel, Jr., a newspaper correspondent were married. Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier were also married since my last entry in this journal.

Senator Estes Kefauver and Adlai Stevenson have vigorously contested the Presidential primary elections throughout the United States, with Florida, California, and Minnesota changing the picture from week to week as to the popularities of these two candidates. Governor Averill Harriman of New York has recently tossed his hat into the ring.

Tito is visiting in Soviet Russia at the present time and notwithstanding his statements of friendship and loyalty to the present leadership in Russia, the present Administration is requesting my Subcommittee on Foreign Aid to appropriate 15 million dollars in economic assistance together with other amounts, which are secret, for military aid.

Notwithstanding the primary election campaign in Kentucky, I never missed a quorum or roll call vote, and so far my record is still perfect.

Sometimes very important legislation is passed or rejected with only a very few members on the floor. For instance, a very important Bill from the Committee on Banking and Currency was decided by 18 votes. A division on a particular amendment was requested and the "ayes" were 3 and the "nos" were 15.

Governor A. B. Chandler's man Joe Bates, ex-Member of the House, was defeated by Earle C. Clements with the majority being approximately 80,000. In fact, all of Governor Chandler's candidates for the House and the Senate were defeated.

Mrs. Catherine Marshall, the wife of Dr. Peter Marshall, a former chaplain of the Senate, entered into Kentucky politics during the primary. She sponsored the candidacy of Julian Golden in the Republican race for U. S. Senator. Golden was defeated by Thruston Morton. Mrs. Marshall and Golden were of the opinion that lay Christians should take part in partisan politics, and as Mrs. Marshall expressed it, "God could use Mr. Golden."

Congressman Leslie Arends, Republican Whip of Illinois, informed me the other day that his favorite lament was as follows:

"Among life's dying embers,  
These are my regrets;  
When I'm right, no one remembers,  
When I'm wrong, no one forgets."

I know just exactly how the Congressman feels about this lament.

During my Primary Campaign every organization including labor, business and agriculture, endorsed my candidacy. My opponent never received an endorsement from any organization.

Speaker Rayburn and senator Lyndon Johnson succeeding in taking charge of the Texas Democratic Convention, thereby ousting Governor Shivers and his pro Eisenhower followers.

In walking along the hallway the other day I ran into a man that I recognized as John Maragon who once bragged of his influence at the White House and later served a term in the Federal Reformatory at Petersburg, Virginia for a period of 19 months for perjury in 1952. It seems that Mr. Maragon is now employed in the folding room here in the Old House Office Building.

The U.S.S. Wisconsin and the U.S.S. Eaton collided several weeks ago causing severe damage to the bow of the Wisconsin. The Navy very quickly and without any publicity, proceeded to cut the bow off the U.S.S. Kentucky for transplanting to the U.S.S. Wisconsin. The U.S.S. Kentucky is completed to the main deck, costing \$55 million dollars and construction was held up in the year 1948. After indicating that the U.S.S. Kentucky might be junked, a quick denial

was made when the Bureau of Ships was contacted and it now looks like they have succeeded in accomplishing their purpose.

World War III is estimated to cost the United States between one trillion and four trillion dollars. The Civil War cost \$3,900,000,000, World War I cost \$39,600,000,000 and World War II \$383 billion, and Korea \$150 billion.

On April 16 the President vetoed H.R. 12 designated as the Agriculture Act of 1956. The President stated that H.R. 12 would not correct the present farm prices but would encourage more surplus and harm every agricultural region in this country. I believed that the President would veto this Bill and believe it or not, this veto has not caused him any political difficulty throughout the United States.

Southern Members of the House and Senate issued a Manifesto with the title being "Declaration of Constitutional Principals." This segregation plea was signed by Members from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. My good friend, Charles Deane, who is a Member of the Committee on Appropriations and a Member from North Carolina did not sign the Manifesto and due to



his failure to do so was defeated in the Primary in North Carolina two weeks ago.

So far the 84th Congress has enacted legislation pertaining to Military Reserve Program, Formosa Defense, Reciprocal Trade Extension, Corporate and Excise Tax Extension, Draft Law Extension, Pay Raise for Federal Judges and Members of Congress, Minimum Wage Increase, Soil Bank Program for Agriculture, Highway Construction Bill. These are the major pieces of legislation.

Representative Thomas J. Lane, of Massachusetts, pleaded guilty to willful evasion of more than \$38,000 in Federal income taxes for 1949, 1950 and 1951, and was sentenced to four months in a Federal penitentiary. He was also fined \$10,000. A plea for probation was made and refused and, according to latest reports, the Congressman will be a candidate for re-election for new term beginning January 1957.

Communist Party Chief Khrushchev told 10,000 cheering Russians recently that the United States is moving in the direction of cooperation with the Soviet Union. President Eisenhower answered by saying that Russia could have friendly relations with the United

States and the free world for the asking.

According to recent reports, Japanese tobacco growers will plant a record 185,900 acres in tobacco. Here again we have competition resulting from our Technical Assistance Program.

President Eisenhower has granted permission for Air Force Chief of Staff General Nathan Twining to make a visit to Soviet Russia, accepting the Russians' invitation recently extended.

Senator John Sherman Cooper recently indicated that he would not run for the Senate to fill the unexpired term of the late Alben W. Barkley. This unexpired term is four years, and the Republicans are very disappointed. Ambassador Cooper stated that his duties as Ambassador to India were such that it was not to the best interest of everyone concerned for him to make the race at the present time.

Senator Alben W. Barkley collapsed and died on April 30th of a heart attack while making a speech to a mock political convention at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia. The Senator had been speaking for some thirty minutes when he vigorously informed the crowd of 1,700 participating in the student event that he would

rather be a servant in the house of the Lord than to sit in the seats of the mighty. At this point the Senator collapsed, falling to the stage, and was pronounced dead within a few minutes. The American political stage lost one of its favorite players in the death of Senator Barkley. That his death should come literally on stage while speaking lines that signally reflected his innate humility provided a fitting curtain for a memorable career. The Senator was seventy-eight years of age, and beginning in the year 1913 served as Congressman, Senator, Senate Majority Leader, Vice President and, again, Senator. My good friend, Congressman Burr P. Harrison, drove down with Senator Barkley to attend the mock convention, and was present when he died. In consoling Mrs. Barkley the Congressman stated that Senator Barkley was now in Heaven, and Mrs. Barkley replied no he was still telling some of his stories to Saint Peter, and in all probability had not finally entered the gate.

On March 11th the British announced that one of their jet planes had recaptured the world speed record from the United States with a run of 1,132 miles per hour. The jet flew at 38,000 feet making two runs at 1,117 miles an hour and the second at 1,147 miles per hour.

President Eisenhower was recently rushed to the hospital, and within a few hours received major surgery. A portion of his small intestine was removed, and, according to all reports, he is fully recovering from this intestinal operation. He is still in the hospital at Walter Reed, and much to the amusement of the Democratic Leadership, the Republicans and the doctors in attendance are all acclaiming the fact that regardless of a severe heart attack recently suffered, and now an intestinal operation, the President is as fit as a fiddle. In my opinion, if the President were flat on his back paralyzed from his thorax down the Republicans would still run him for re-election and say he was physically and mentally qualified. To me this is an outrage, and it certainly is a shame that the Republican Party is so bankrupt in so far as leadership is concerned.

Kentucky will receive approximately \$22,000,000 for construction, and some \$550,000 for planning of public works projects. My Committee on Appropriations passed the Public Works Bill providing for \$1,500,000 for Rough River Reservoir, and \$100,000 for planning for the Nolin River Reservoir. Only ten other States, California, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas and Washington received as much money as

Kentucky. We have now completed in my District since August 1953, a new lock at Spottsville; new lock and dam at Rumsey; Green River has been canalized from its mouth to mile 103; Rough River Reservoir is under construction, and Nolin River is now being planned.

June 16, 1956

Celeste graduated from high school yesterday. She attended Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, and some 620 boys and girls graduated. We attended the graduation exercises and, notwithstanding the heat, everyone seemed to enjoy the ceremony.

On Tuesday of next week the State Central Executive Committee will meet in Louisville to nominate the Democrat who will run in the November election for Senator Barkley's unexpired four year term. Shortly thereafter Governor Chandler will name someone to serve as United States Senator until the November election. From every indication now Lawrence W. Wetherby, ex-Governor of Kentucky, or Keen Johnson, ex-Governor of Kentucky, will be named at next Tuesday's meeting. I have my doubts that Governor Chandler will name the same individual.

On Tuesday night of next week the annual Congressional Ball Game between

the House Democrats and Republicans will be played at Griffith Stadium. Last year in our five inning game I was up twice and got two hits, a double and a single. The year before I was up twice and struck out twice. Time will tell just what is in store for me this Tuesday night.

June 18, 1956

During the past few weeks my Subcommittees on District of Columbia Appropriations for 1957, and Agricultural Appropriations for 1957 have completed Hearings and passed the necessary Bills. At the present time we are engaged in holding Hearings on Mutual Security Appropriations for 1957. On Tuesday of last week, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles appeared before our Subcommittee for the second time during our present Hearings to be questioned concerning proposed appropriations for Yugoslavia. Since our Hearings began with the Yugoslavia request a part of same, Tito has paid a visit to Soviet Russia and in substance reaffirms his understanding and future agreements with Russia, much to the amazement of the free world. We inquired of the Secretary of State if he and the present Administration were now in the mood to delete all requests from Yugoslavia. The Secretary proceeded to doodle when first questioned and continued throughout

a six hour period. In substance he stated that it was recognized in this country that Tito, and Yugoslavia in general, were Communistically inclined but that refusal to give technical and financial assistance would simply drive Yugoslavia into the Russian camp, making her another satellite country. When the Secretary completed his testimony the scratch pad upon which he was doodling indicated a finished product -- a facsimile appears on the back of this page. The Chairman of our Subcommittee Otto E. Passman, requested the Secretary to sign and date his doodle. Secretary Dulles raised his head and in a very embarrassed manner said that he would be glad to do so if the Chairman was serious and the Chairman indicated his desire for the finished product. The Secretary signed his name on the back and dated the doodle. When the Secretary left the room, Passman very dignifiedly informed the six Democratic Members and the five Republican Members of the Committee, that since the Secretary of State only doodled, with no information of any importance being given to the Committee, that he would like to keep the doodle as a remembrance and a reminder of just how Secretaries of State refused to give information of any importance to Committees and just how inadequate their testimony generally appears. The Republican Members all frowned but down inside they all realized the truth of the statement.

Informed sources acknowledged statement that the first U.S. Hydrogen Bomb dropped from an aircraft on May 21, missed its target by about four miles. The bomb was dropped from a B-52 bomber and the miss, according to the Air Force was the result of a human error and same blamed on the bombardier of the B-52. It seems that this bomb was to be exploded 15,000 feet above an illuminated patch on the Namu Island in the Pacific Ocean.

Today we take up the Consent Calendar and suspend the rules to consider four bills. One bill authorizes improvement to Rockland Harbor Maine; another pertains to the National Health Survey Act; another sets an agricultural definition for nonfat dry milk; reduces the rate for Ministers of Religion for Aircraft Carriers.

Before the week is over we will have up for consideration the bill from the Committee on Veterans Affairs providing for a pension for Veterans of World War I of \$105 per month in all cases in which the Veteran is single if his income is less than \$1,800 a year, if married an income of three thousand a year. According to the Veterans Administration, passage of this Bill will cost the United States Government some seventy-seven billion dollars. After many months the Committee on



Veterans Affairs, over the objections of its Chairman, voted out this bill. Under the Rules of the House, this particular bill requires no Rule since same pertains to an original pension proposal.

June 21, 1956

The political pot boils in Kentucky On Monday of this week, Governor A. B. Chandler named Joseph J. Leary, attorney of Frankfort, as United States Senator to serve until the regular election in November with the thought in mind that his former State campaign chairman in the gubernatorial race of 1955 would automatically be named the day following by the State Central Executive Committee as the Democratic nominee for the un-expired four year term of the late Senator Alben W. Barkley. The Committee named Lawrence W. Wetherby, ex-Governor of Kentucky and the man known to Chandler as "Wetherbine in that combine of Clemantine and Wetherbine." This action came as a shock to the Governor and also to Joe Leary. Yesterday, Leary issued a release to the effect that one of the prime considerations which caused him to consider service in the United States Senate was a sincere desire to bring peace to the ranks of the Democratic Party and that he had talked to a great many people active on both sides of the Democratic Party's

factional fight in Kentucky, and that he had reasons from both sides to believe prior to Committee action that he would receive the nomination. Since he considered the interim appointment as an empty honor and therefore had notified Governor Chandler that he declined to accept the appointment from the Governor.

I was hoping that after the Primary Election the two factions in Kentucky could agree on a successor to fill the unexpired term of Senator Barkley and in addition consolidate forces for a right rough November election. If President Eisenhower, regardless of his present health condition, is a candidate for re-election, we will have a close election in Kentucky.

We finished our Hearings on Mutual Security yesterday and will mark up the Bill on Tuesday of next week. This matter has required a great number of days testimony and the Subcommittee Members have clearly indicated by their questioning of witnesses that there will be a drastic cut in the amount appropriated this year. I, for one, am in favor in holding the appropriation in line with the amount appropriated last year.

June 22, 1956

Robert Humphreys, present Highway

Commissioner of Kentucky, will arrive in Washington on Saturday for swearing in ceremonies on Monday as United States Senator from Kentucky from now until the November election proves the winner of the unexpired term of the late Senator Alben W. Barkley.

On Wednesday of this week I testified before the Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee concerning the closing down of Camp Breckenridge in Union County. The Army was represented at the Hearing and a promise was made that an extensive report would be forthcoming immediately showing just why Camp Breckenridge is needed at the present time. Camp Breckenridge has been de-activated three times since it was first established in 1941 and at present is in the hands of a caretaker. Here we have 36,000 acres of rich agricultural land no longer on the tax rolls of Union, Henderson and Webster Counties and serving no worthwhile purpose.

The House adjourned yesterday until Monday after quite a skirmish between the Majority Leader McCormack of Massachusetts and Minority Leader Martin of Massachusetts. A school construction and veterans bill should be up for action next week in the House.

The Republican Party is delighted with the present political situation in Kentucky. Selection of a Republican candidate whose name will be placed on the election ballot has been postponed and the meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in Lexington, Kentucky will be called simply to discuss candidates. John Sherman Cooper is again being pressured and according to my information, the President himself will request that Cooper run. Only time will tell whether or not John Sherman Cooper wants to take his chances again on a fourth state-wide defeat. Two successful campaigns for unexpired terms of two years against Democratic nominees Tom Underwood and John Young Brown and two defeats for full six-year terms at the hands of Alben W. Barkley and Virgil Chapman. Another state-wide defeat as Republican candidate for Governor in Republican primary in 1935 with King Swope of Lexington being the victor.

My good friend, Jack Meloan, editor and owner of the Edmondson News of Edmondson County carried an article on the front page of his paper in the June 21 issue, which reads as follows:

Clementine-Wetherbine Combine  
Beat Chandline

"They used to call him Big Bad Bill, but he's Sweet William now!"

Apparently that is what the Democratic Convention at Louisville Tuesday thought of Unhappy Governor Albert Benjamin Chandler.

Anywise the Convention named Chandler's arch enemy former Governor Wetherby as party standard bearer for Barkley's Senate seat. The entire party in Mr. Chandler's May primary named Clements, another arch enemy of Unhappy Happy as the party standard bearer.

Chandler's appointee, Joseph Leary-ine, appointed on the Convention eve was not even mentioned by the Convention -- neither was Chandler, leastways not in words printable.

Previous to Tuesday's Convention it was rumored that Chandler had threatened to go fishing come election day if Wetherby got the nod. It was also predicted he would go GOP. The Democrats apparently want him to go GOP, the Republicans had high hopes he and Clementine and Wetherbine would kiss and make up, they (Republicans) definitely don't want him. If he goes a-fishing we don't know what the fish will do -- but we have an idea.

So Clementine and Wetherbine are back in the saddle again!"

According to the Monthly Statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the U.S. Government for the period from July 1, 1955 through May 31, 1956, the estimated gross receipts for the year 1956 amount to \$77,515,000,000 with new receipts estimated at \$66,300,000,000 and with net expenditures amounting to \$65,865,352,207 thereby leaving a budget surplus of \$434,647,793.

June 25, 1956

Robert Humphreys was sworn in today at noon to serve until November in the United States Senate. After the swearing in ceremony, a luncheon was held in his honor with the six Democratic Members of the House from Kentucky present together with the two Republican House Members, Senator Clements, Senator George of Georgia, Senator Lyndon Johnson, the Majority Leader, Senator Bill Knowland, the Minority Leader, and Senator Humphreys.

The new Senator, who resigned as Highway Commissioner of Kentucky to accept the interim appointment, will attempt to fill a seat formerly held by an outstanding American.

Egypt is again attempting to obtain the necessary funds for the construction of the Aswan Dam. It now seems that Sudan has rejected an Egyptian proposal

to start negotiations for a division of the Nile waters. The bone of contention is the flooding of approximately 100 miles of the Sudan, which wipes out scores of small villages.

Secretary of Defense, Charles E. Wilson, has again suffered from "foot and mouth disease". His latest statement was to the effect that the Senators' efforts to increase the Air Force funds one billion dollars was strictly "phony". Later the Secretary stated that if he had thought a little more about the matter, he would not have used the word "phony". Senators from both sides of the aisle are demanding that Secretary Wilson resign, maintaining that his remark was absolutely unwarranted and also simply a slur.

Retired General Mark W. Clark, in a speech in San Francisco on Friday, stated that Russia is not smiling at us, but that they are deliberately laughing at us. The Retired General made this statement before a Salvation Army luncheon, which was also attended by former President Herbert Hoover.

Four District of Columbia Bills were up for consideration in the House today. Beginning tomorrow we start consideration of H.R. 7886, which is designated as the Veterans' Compensation

Bill, and after this Bill finally passes the House on Wednesday or Thursday we will then take up H.R. 7535, the Bill providing Federal aid for school construction. These two Bills will bring on more argument than any two Bills that we have had for discussion so far this year.

The feud in Kentucky continues, and on Saturday of this week the County conventions will be held, at which time delegates to the State Convention will be elected. The Congressional caucus to be held at the State Convention will determine the membership of the State Central Executive Committee for the next four years.

June 27, 1956

Speaker Sam Rayburn cracked down on House Members who have been placing editorials in the Appendix which are highly critical of Senators. As Speaker Rayburn pointed out, this is a violation of the Rules and no other violation would be permitted. According to one of the Assistant Clerks, a great many extensions have been made recently highly critical of certain Democratic Senators who were favoring an increase in the appropriations for national defense as well as editorials critical of McCarthy and certain other Republican Senators.



Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King, age 77, died on Monday of this week. King has often been referred to as the only man who could have fought an eight front sea war while building a five ocean Navy during World War II. His death leaves only three Five-Star Fleet Admirals -- William D. Leahy, Chester W. Nimitz, and William F. Halsey.

Governor A. B. Chandler is attending the Governor's Conference in Atlantic City at the present time and in addition to stating that he will actively support Senator Clements and do little more than cast his vote for former Governor Wetherby, he has announced his availability for the presidential nomination. He and his Executive Secretary, Harry Davis, are wearing big red, white and blue buttons with the words, "Go 'Happy' Chandler for President, Be Lucky Again."

Ex-President Harry Truman is making a tour of Europe at the present time and while viewing the resting place of certain outstanding Englishmen who have died during the past five hundred years he made the statement that on his own tombstone he hoped they would put this epitaph "He done his damnedest."

The Veterans Bill is up for final vote in the House today. Yesterday we were informed by Representative Halleck

of Indiana that regardless of which bill passed (the bill under discussion is H.R. 7886 or the Dorn substitute) same would be vetoed by the President. The original bill calls for an expenditure of some 149 billion dollars and the Dorn substitute reduces this amount to approximately seventy billion.

June 28, 1956

The House passed H. R. 7886 after all provisions other than those pertaining to World War I Veterans and an automatic pension at age 65 providing income requirements are met, were all deleted.

I am really amazed at letters and telegrams that I receive from time to time. The Veterans pension bill passed yesterday will never become law. There is no rhyme or reason for an automatic pension to any Veteran, and as a Veteran of four years experience in World War II, I believe that I am qualified to make this statement. Assuming that the Senate passes this bill, the President will veto same notwithstanding the extreme pressure exercised by the American Legion and the many organizations joining them in an effort to have this Bill passed. The American Legion has directed a letter to every Member of the House informing us that the American Legion is opposed to Federal

Financial Aid to general education and in keeping with their viewpoint concerning this matter they request that we all vote against H.R. 7535 which is up for action today and provides for Federal Aid for School Construction. The Federal Aid for School Construction Bill takes care of the American people and especially our children which are admittedly our greatest asset. The Legion stand on this matter is certainly confusing and in my opinion will sway no votes in the House.

Governor Chandler is still at the Governor's conference in Atlantic City and according to the press, Chandler informed the Annual Governor's Conference yesterday that his wife was arrested for speeding in so many states in 1936 that he had a governor placed on the accelerator on her car. The Governor stated that shortly after this adjustment was made Mrs. Chandler and two of the children were attempting to pass another car and in the process the governor took over and she was unable to pass. Mrs. Chandler made the remark that "this damn governor will kill us yet", and one of the children said, "the damn Governor isn't even here." I am afraid that this particular type of instrument will be in effect on August 13 when our Governor offers himself as a candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

It now develops that President Eisenhower during his second year as President became so incensed with the Republican Party that he decided that a third party should be formed. He was so vexed at the powerful right wing and what they were doing to his program that he went so far as to try to think up a name for the new party. It was along about this time that Members of the House noted new expressions in messages from the President to the Congress. Such expressions as "Progressive Moderation" and "dynamic conservatism". All of this is disclosed in the new book recently released entitled "The Inside Story" with the author being Robert J. Donovan of the New York Herald Tribune.

Virginia, Celeste and Louise sailed out of Bethesda this morning at four a.m. on their way to Kentucky. Virginia's mother, Mrs. F. D. Reardon, is in the hospital at Bowling Green and appears to be in right serious condition. This follows an operation performed in Philadelphia some four months ago and may be critical. It will be right quiet at 5108 Bradley Boulevard without my family and Sam, our Cocker Spanier, and two or three little flat headed boys who are always underfoot.

The general concensus of opinion in the House is that a motion to adjourn

sine die is very much in order. With the Veterans Bill, Federal Aid for School Construction Bill which will contain a Powell Amendment proposal, Civil Rights and one or two other measures, the men will be carefully selected and separated.

June 29, 1956

H.R. 7886, providing for increased rates for non-service connected pensions for World War I veterans presumed to be totally and permanently disabled at age 65, grants \$75 per month in lieu of existing \$66.15, if less than 65 years of age, and \$90 per month in lieu of existing \$78.75 at age 65. If the veteran is helpless or blind, so as to need the aid and attendance of another person, the rate is \$150.00 per month in lieu of existing \$135.45, with 10% increase for three above provisions if the veteran had service overseas over thirty days or more. All of the above rates are subject to income limitations of \$1,400, if the veteran is single, or \$2,700 if with dependents.

Conference Report for Public Works Appropriations Bill of 1957, numbered H.R. 11319, was adopted by the House on Tuesday. Under this Bill, Kentucky received \$21,596,400 for the development of its waterways. Included among the projects are Barbourville flood wall

\$765,000; for construction Buckhorn Reservoir -- \$1,000,000; Catlettsburg -- \$1,000,000 for construction; Greenup locks and dam -- \$9,900,000 for construction; Lock and dam 41 at Louisville \$750,000 for construction and \$150,000 for planning; Lower Cumberland River lock and dam -- \$1,100,000 for planning and construction with \$500,000 being for planning; Markland locks and dam \$5,000,000 for construction; New Richmond lock and dams -- \$125,000 for planning, Nolin River Reservoir \$100,000 for planning; Rough River Reservoir and channels -- \$1,500,000 for construction; Big Sandy River -- \$76,000 for planning; Kentucky River Basin Survey -- \$50,000; Cypress Creek -- for planning \$17,000; Clark's River -- \$15,000 for planning; Laurel River dam -- \$10,000 for planning; Pond River -- \$8,000 for planning; Little Sandy River and Tygarts Creek -- \$20,000 for planning, Devils Jump -- \$10,400.

The Rough River Reservoir project, Nolin Reservoir project, Cypress Creek project, and the Pond River project listed above are in the Second Congressional District. Since my tenure as a Member of the House, we have constructed new lock at Spottsville, Kentucky; new lock and dam at Rumsey, Kentucky; canalized Green River to Mile 103, started construction of Rough River Reservoir, and are now proceeding with

planning for the three new projects known as Nolin River Reservoir, Pond River and Cypress Creek. With the largest coal deposit in the world on a navigable stream located on Green River in the Second District, all of these projects will aid in bringing in new industry, and aid in flood control and soil conversation.

June 30, 1956

The Conference Report on the Defense Appropriation Bill was adopted in the House yesterday. This Bill appropriates \$34,700,000,000 for national defense, and includes the Senate increase of \$900,000,000 for the Air Force.

Adoption of this Report leaves only two Appropriation bills to be acted on before adjournment. The Mutual Security Bill and a supplemental bill will come before the House within the next two weeks.

So far this session, we have appropriated \$52,300,000,000 which represents a net increase of \$543,700,000 over the President's budget total. These figures do not include the \$7,500,000,000 of permanent appropriations which require no action by Congress, and most of which is interest on the public debt. With this amount included, the total amounts to \$59,800,000,000.

The President has requested \$3,100,000,000 for various purposes in the supplemental bill and \$4,900,000,000 for Foreign Aid. Assuming these two amounts were appropriated, this would bring the total appropriated for this session to \$67,700,000,000.

The supplemental bill will be reduced sharply and the Mutual Security Bill will be marked up by my Subcommittee on Tuesday of next week, and here again we shall have a marked reduction.

The Senate finally passed upon the Foreign Aid Authorization Bill yesterday, and ended with the amount being \$4,500,000,000. Before final passage the Senate added authorization of \$5,000,000,000, which the President could use to encourage Communist-dominated peoples to work for freedom. Many public statements were made concerning how this money could be used, and one of which was from Senator Dirksen, Republican of Illinois, who said the money could be used to encourage uprisings such as occurred yesterday in Poland. It seems that a workers' uprising in the major Polish city of Poznan took place yesterday and 38 people were killed and some 270 wounded before the Communist government brought the riot under control.



Secretary Wilson has issued a statement concerning research costs and defense expenditures by the Department of Defense. For research costs, the amount in 1949 amounted to \$555,000,000 and the estimated cost for 1957 is \$1,333,000,000. Defense expenditures in 1949 totaled \$11,994,000,000 divided between the three service departments and the office of the Secretary of Defense. In 1951 defense expenditures amounted to \$19,772,000,000, and in 1952 -- \$38,972,000,000. The estimated expenditure for 1956 is \$35,105,000,000 and estimated for 1957 -- \$35,947,000,000.

Wendell H. Ford, 30-year old insurance man from Owensboro, Kentucky, and a son of Ernest Ford, was elected president of the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce Thursday night of last week.

Governor Chandler is still making headlines at the Governor's Conference, which is being held in Atlantic City, New Jersey. According to the Washington paper, one of the highlights of the conference was a press conference held by Governor Chandler. For instance, the article stated that he showed genuine dignity to the members of the press who came to scoff at his presidential aspirations. When he spoke of being at Harvard, a woman reporter inquired as to what he was doing at Harvard. Governo

Chandler answered, "I went to school there, honey, just like your little girl went to Vassar". The Governor concluded that this was his last chance for the National ticket but that he was wearing his coat loose and might not receive too much consideration.

Thomas R. Underwood, aged 58, and editor of the Lexington Herald, died yesterday. Tom Underwood served in the House of Representatives for 2½ years and then was selected as U.S. Senator to fill the seat of Senator Virgil Chapman. Tom Underwood made a terrible political mistake when he left the House and went to the Senate. John Sherman Cooper defeated Underwood in the November election following his appointment for the two year unexpired term.

By the way, John Sherman Cooper, U.S. Ambassador to India at the present time, stated recently that he felt this country and India were drifting apart.

The School Construction Bill will be up again Monday, and indications are that voting will not begin until after the July 4th holiday. Before we adjourned yesterday, Representative Powell of New York, urged the House to support his anti-segregation amendment stating that if same failed it would be due to

the Democrats. Another colored Member of the House, Representative Dawson of Chicago, Illinois, has publicly stated that he would oppose the Powell Amendment because its effect would be to kill the School Construction Bill.

The House Rules Committee yesterday, by a vote of 6 to 4 killed the Housing Bill. This Bill called for 180,000 public housing units over the next three years.

We passed H.R. 11740 last week, which provides for a one year \$3,000,000,000 increase in the National Debt Limit.

President Eisenhower signed the \$33,000,000,000 Highway Bill yesterday.

July 2, 1956

Governor Chandler won undisputed control of Kentucky's Democratic Party Machinery on Saturday according to the Press release, the Chandler forces organized every Congressional District in Kentucky with the exception of the Third and Eighth. This means that the State Central Executive Committee will be composed of friends of Governor Chandler and the complete election machinery on August 13 at the National Democratic Convention will be in control of Governor Chandler.

Ever since I can remember the Governor has organized the State Central Executive Committee. The people in Kentucky are tired of fighting and with a mean Governor's race last year and Congressional races this year, the outcome of the Convention meetings on Saturday did not surprise me one bit. Last year the people decided that it was of the best interest for the State to unseat one organization and this was accomplished. This year the voters decided that the organization in charge was too dictatorial and they should be squelched. It makes every Kentuckian proud of the fact that the people are still in charge.

Two giant luxury airliners carrying 128 persons collided in mid-air over the Grand Canyon in Arizona. All were killed and an investigation is underway.

Politics makes strange bedfellows. For a great number of years Congressman Howard W. Smith of Virginia, Chairman of the House Rules Committee and Congressman Leo Allen of Illinois, the ranking Republican Member on this Committee had a powerful conservative coalition on all important matters. The Civil Rights Bill and the School Construction Bill finally separated this coalition.

A weekend rest on the Federal Aid Bill for School Construction strengthened

chances today that the House will approve the measure and reject a racial integration amendment to be offered by Representative Powell of New York. It is now evident that Congress will not adjourn in my opinion without providing large scale assistance to States to cope with the emergency shortage of classrooms.

Six hundred and 50 thousand United Steel Workers started a strike on Saturday night of last week. Unless this strike is settled very quickly same will be felt throughout this country.

Cyprus remained the number one sore spot in the Middle East last week with British troops ripping open a Greek Cemetery in a search for hidden arms and raiding the Episcopal residence of exiled Archbishop Makarias. Bombings and shooting continued throughout the week.

July 3, 1956

During the Second Session of the 84th Congress 4,204 Bills have been introduced in the House and 1,390 in the Senate, making a total of 5,594. Two hundred and thirty-four joint resolutions have been introduced in the House and 83 in the Senate, making a total of 317. Sixty-four concurrent resolutions have been introduced in the

House and 26 in the Senate making a total of 90. Two hundred twenty-three simple resolutions have been introduced in the House and 152 in the Senate making a total of 375. We have had 42 quorum calls and 42 yeas-and-nay votes so far this Session. Six Bills have been vetoed and no vetoes have been overridden. The House has consumed 3,086 pages of the Congressional Record and the Senate 6,618 pages totaling 10,424. One hundred and eighty-five Public Bills have been enacted into law in the House; 194 private bills have been enacted into law in the House and there are presently pending in conference eight bills.

So far we have appropriated \$52,014,166,315 evidenced by sixteen appropriations bills. The bills are as follows:

1956	Urgent Deficiency	\$ 65,695,066
	Second Supplemental	852,414,896
	Labor	---
	Agriculture	---
1957	Treasury, Post Office	3,629,139,00
	Interior	423,934,10
	General Government	14,969,97
	Labor - HEW	2,366,380,78
	Independent Offices	5,966,517,82
	District of Columbia	(181,612,49
	Federal Payment	22,558,65
	State, Justice,	
	Judiciary	548,930,95
	Commerce	1,416,732,00

Defense	34,656,727,00
Agriculture	1,993,744,96
Public Works	856,727,00
Legislative	117,804,05

We approved our annual continuing resolution yesterday before the full Committee on Appropriations. This Resolution is entitled "Temporary Appropriations 1957" and provides for continuing in operation those functions of government for which annual appropriations for 1957 have not yet been enacted. All of the written annual supply bills have passed the stage of legislative consideration and since we are now entering into a new fiscal year the above continuing resolution is essential.

July 5, 1956

On a teller vote with 156 Members on skates, the Powell Amendment passed 164 to 116. This scuttled hopes for Federal school aid legislation due to the fact that the southern States are denied assistance under this Bill if they refuse to recognize a Supreme Court decision concerning segregation. The House adopted Representative Adam Clayton Powell, Democratic Negro Congressman from New York, Amendment to bar aid to States which do not comply with the Supreme Court's 1954 school integration order. I hope that a roll call vote

will be demanded on the Powell Amendment as well as final passage. Every member from Kentucky voted against adoption of the Powell Amendment except Watts and Robsion. A roll call vote will remove the skates from the 156 good Members who refused to be counted.

During the reading of the Bill, Representative James Roosevelt, the son of ex-President Franklin D. Roosevelt, was recognized and spoke in favor of the adoption of the Powell Amendment and before closing his remarks eulogized to the skies the present Supreme Court of the United States. The next speaker recognized was Representative L. Mendel Rivers of South Carolina, who very promptly turned to Representative Roosevelt and stated "Brother Roosevelt, we also have public schools in South Carolina, and we believe in our children and in education generally. Your family has done more against South Carolina than any other family in the history of our state." A pin would have sounded like an elm log. Roosevelt started to get back to his feet and one or two Members from California walked over to where he was sitting and advised against this procedure. Rivers then proceeded up the center aisle to the back of the Chamber and behind the rail had a few words with Representative Frank Smith of Mississippi. The conversation was loud and Smith told Rivers



he should shut his mouth. Rivers informed Smith that if he wanted it shut he knew what he could do about it, and any Member of the House that attempted to take up for a ----- nigger lover should get out of the House.

The most dramatic statement made on the floor during the reading of the Bill was made by Representative William Dawson, negro Democrat from Chicago, Illinois. He spoke very vigorously against the adoption of the Powell amendment and stated in part as follows:

"My mother and my grandmother worked their fingers to the bone cooking and washing clothes in order to give me and my brothers and my sisters an education. We had to go to a private school. The last request of my mother when she passed away was to ask me to see that every one of the children younger than I got the opportunity to have a college education. Every Dawson younger than I has had that college education, and all of them have made their contribution to America. I recite these things to you to let you know something about America. I know something about the system, but I believe in America and I believe in our institutions. That is why I am opposing the Powell Amendment. A survey shows that hundreds of thousands of schoolrooms

are needed in these United States. Those who claim that the States have the ability to build them are met with the proposition that you have not done it and a national crisis now faces this Nation of ours and schoolrooms are needed by all the children of America. The education of the young is as fundamental for the preservation of this Nation of ours as maintaining a standing army. You are considering today and you will pass a bill today that will aid education in every State in the Union. I am of the opinion, and that opinion is based upon 14 years of experience in this Congress that if you attach the Powell Amendment to this school-aid bill, you will have no school-aid legislation at this session of the Congress. That is based upon the experience I have had with civil-rights bills and other bills. Is the Supreme Court powerless? I say to you the Supreme Court is one branch of our Government charged with its responsibility. Since when did the Supreme Court become powerless?"

We have one other colored Member in the House, and he is Representative Charles Diggs, negro Democrat and undertaker from Detroit, Michigan. Diggs very promptly was recognized after Dawson and made the statement that Dawson did not represent the 15 million negroes in this country. I am definitely in

favor of the Kelly School Construction Bill, but if the Powell Amendment is finally adopted in my opinion the Bill will be defeated.

The Veterans' Affairs Committee in the House unanimously voted out a general ten percent boost in payment bill for service connected disability injuries. This bill will be up for action before we adjourn.

I served as a Member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee for a year. This Committee designation reminds me of Senator Alben W. Barkley's explanation of why the Committee in the House on Foreign Affairs is designated "Committee on Foreign Affairs" and why the Senate Committee is designated "Committee on Foreign Relations." According to the good Senator, the Members in the Senate are too old to have affairs and therefore their's are relations, where and with this rule being to the contrary in the House.

There are 107 former representatives and senators who are now drawing a Government pension as provided for under the six percent deduction from salary plan.

My Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. Cannon from Missouri, defended the House action on remodeling

the Capitol. One of our appropriation bills covered \$16,000,000 as a first installment in the plan to extend the east front of the Capitol forty feet to provide additional office and restaurant space. Several architects and people throughout the United States have objected to this "destruction" of our national Capitol. Mr. Cannon stated that we have ample museums and monuments in Washington but that the Capitol is not one of them. He further said that we need space on the Hill and facilities for one of the most important and complicated business activities in the world.

Deposits in Washington's seventeen banks and trust companies recently totaled \$1,384,399,021.

The Republican National Committee recently issued a pamphlet approved by the Senate Republican Policy Committee which contained a statement purportedly made by one Claude Lightfoot, a communist, who was alledged to have called upon the communists in this country to elect the Democrats. This to me is a shabby piece of business.

July 9, 1956

The Federal Aid for School Construction Bill was defeated in the House with a vote of 224 to 194. The Powell

Amendment providing that no part of the funds provided for in the Bill could be used in States that refused to recognize the decision of the Supreme Court in regard to segregation was first adopted and then deleted and re-adopted. I voted against the Powell Amendment and since the Bill upon final passage contained the Powell Amendment, I again voted against the entire Bill. I believe in Federal Aid for School Construction and like a great many other Members from the South would have cast the vote of my District for this Bill if the Powell Amendment had been deleted.

H.R. 11390 providing for re-adjustment of Postal Rates passed the House last Friday. Under this Bill three cent stamps will be four cents, and AirMail stamps will increase from six to seven cents. Third class mail and second class mail will also be re-adjusted. I voted against passage of this particular legislation. I certainly am against an increase in first class mail rates because I do not believe that this burden should be placed upon the people at this time. The Post Office Department to me is a service department and not a money making department.

H.R. 11695, the Bill to extend School Construction in impacted areas and the Bill to increase the borrowing

power of the Commodity Credit Corporation both passed the House on Saturday of last week. Today we have up for consideration the Conference reports and ten Bills pertaining to the District of Columbia.

The first Conference Report is H. R. 11356 pertaining to the Mutual Security Act of 1956 and the Second Conference Report is H. R. 11619 pertaining to the Narcotics Control Act of 1956.

Following the two Conference Reports and action on the District of Columbia Bills we will take up H. R. 12130 the Mutual Security Appropriations Bill for 1956. Next we will have the supplemental Appropriations Bills all the appropriations measures will have been acted upon in the House for this session.

July 10, 1956

John Sherman Cooper bowed to the personal wishes of President Eisenhower and accepted the nomination of Kentucky Republicans for the unexpired four-year term of the late Senator Barkley. Cooper resigned as Ambassador to India yesterday, a position he has held since February 1955. Cooper is 55 years old and refused to run several days ago. At that time the Democratic Party had

a chance of closing ranks which would have completely eliminated Cooper in November. Since the Party would not close ranks and is still fighting the Chandler-Clements battle, Cooper's chances against former Governor Lawrence W. Weatherby have improved considerably. The Republicans here in Washington are jubilant over the situation and have selected Kentucky as one of the five States in which to make an all out battle in November. With two seats up in the Senate in Kentucky and with the Senate organized by the Democratic Party with a one vote majority, the prize is worth the battle.

President Eisenhower appealed to Congress yesterday to restore the Foreign Aid cuts recommended by my Subcommittee on Mutual Security. The amusing part of this request, as well as the bitter fight to increase the Foreign Aid appropriations at this time is the fact that last year we recommended and Congress approved \$2,765,875,000 for fiscal year 1956. This year we recommended and I believe the House will approve an Appropriation of \$3,425,120,000 of new money and our Committee agreed to re-appropriate the unobligated balance of \$240,800,000. Unobligated and unexpended. With the howl that arose over the small amount appropriated, they were unable to spend

this tremendous amount of money which was unobligated. I am definitely of the opinion that we must take a new look at our Foreign Affairs Program and thereby ascertain just how far we should go with Foreign Aid.

We started general debate on the Mutual Security Appropriations yesterday and since today is the "All Star Game" at Griffith Stadium here in Washington, the House will meet and adjourn with the general debate and the reading of the bill to end tomorrow.

In closing I might add that I have never seen an "All Star Baseball Game" and plan to attend this one today.

July 11, 1956

Yesterday I attended the "All Star Baseball Game" accompanied by a real pretty young lady who works in my office, Miss Evelyn Furgerson, and we witnessed one of the best ballgames I believe I ever saw. The score was seven to three in favor of the National League. All of the great baseball players today in the leagues were members of the respective teams and it was quite thrilling to see Ted Williams strike out twice and then hit a home run, and Mickey Mantle strike out twice and then hit a home run. Williams, Mantle, Mays and Musial hit home runs. Griffith Stadium was packed and it was a lovely day.



John Sherman Cooper's announcement to make the race for Senator has started up some controversy in Kentucky. The Courier Journal in an editorial in Tuesday's paper states in part: "If anything more can happen in Kentucky politics, we had just as soon it wouldn't for a while. It is still a little early to have digested all the elements that a crowded weekend brought to the scene. We are thinking of the crowning touch, the ultimate garnish imparted as the White House, apparently unwilling to leave all the National implications to our Governor, sidled into the picture here, leading John Sherman Cooper by the once reluctant hand."

Ex-Governor Lawrence W. Weatherby, the Democratic nominee, was quoted in Louisville as saying that the nomination of John Sherman Cooper for the United States Senate was a sacrifice of National and world welfare to political expediency. Weatherby stated that when Cooper turned down the nomination in June, he talked like a statesman putting the welfare of the Nation first but due to pressure and political expediency he is now willing to place politics above the welfare of the Nation.

We continue general debate and the reading of the Mutual Security Bill today in the House.

I hope that all of the Bills pending for this week will be acted upon before Saturday, because I hope to be in Calhoun, Kentucky to attend dedication ceremonies for the new locks and dam on Green River. Several thousand people will attend this ceremony which marks the initial step in the emancipation of the Green River Valley from economic slavery. The program will be strickly non-political and non-partisan and only one address will be given by Acting District Engineer, Charles G. Holly. The large river boat "The Sternwheeler" will be anchored at the new lock and dam at Rumsey and with several dining rooms and an orchestra and adequate space for hundreds of people, a good river party will be held. "The Sternwheeler" will be the first river boat through the new lock.

Another political development was announced by Minority Leader Knowland yesterday, the President again had confirmed the fact that he would be a candidate for re-election. President Eisenhower made a statement in the presence of Senator Knowland, Representative Joe Martin, Representative Leo Allen and Senator Saltonstall in Gettysburg yesterday that he intended to conduct a vigorous campaign this fall.

Ordinarily I do not agree with many statements made by Ex-President Harry S. Truman, but I do agree with him when he said that he was not at all surprised at the President's running, but that this country was entitled to more than a part-time President.

July 13, 1956

On July 11th I received the following letter from Adlai E. Stevenson:

"Dear Bill: Now that the Presidential Primaries are over, I want to write you in your capacity as a key leader of our Party. The role you'll play in shaping our party's course in this fateful year is most important. We must have a Democrat in the White House because the times are too perilous and the stakes too high for the country to run the danger of further Republican part-time management by people who do not represent all of us.

"I would be honored to have your personal support of my candidacy. During the spring primary campaigns I have tried to take our Party's case to the people, to discuss the great issues of our times; and I would hope to campaign the same way next fall -- vigorously and on the issues! I've been greatly

encouraged by the people's response this spring and in my opinion, we will win that same way next November.

"I'm ready to do what I can for our entire ticket either as a worker in the ranks or as the nominee if our party sees fit to so honor me.

Cordially, Adlai E.  
Stevenson"

This letter must be answered and I am in a quandry as to just what to say. To me, Adlai Stevenson is an unusual man -- brilliant, energetic, and well-educated. He possesses many mental quirks which to me should not be present in the President of the United States. In his race in 1952 he was unable to reach the people. As far as brilliance is concerned, this man is probably head and shoulders above all of the other prospective presidential candidates -- Governor Harriman, Senator Kefauver, Senator Lyndon Johnson, or Senator Symington of Missouri. With the President a sick man and this fact generally conceded, and with the Republican Party's determination to name Nixon as Vice President nominee again, in my opinion we have a good chance to succeed in electing a Democratic President if the right man is selected. I seriously doubt the advisability of again naming Adlai E. Stevenson.

Yesterday we passed the supplemental Appropriation Bill for 1957, which contains \$1,600,000,000 in appropriations. We suspended the rules and passed a veterans bill providing for a 10 percent increase across the board for service-connected disability. This bill will call for expenditures of some \$174 million per year for a period of several years and then the amount will gradually be reduced.

Today we take up for consideration H.R. 10765, the Longshoremen's and Harborworkers' Compensation Act together with some four or five other measures. We will be in session on Saturday of this week, but according to the Majority Leader, John McCormack, there will be no roll call vote, therefore it will be possible for me to fly to Kentucky to attend the dedication ceremonies for the new locks and dams on the Green River at Rumsey and Spottsville.

Beginning on Monday morning of next week, we take up H.R. 627 which is the Civil Rights Bill. This Bill will require all week and will be hot all the way.

On Tuesday of this past week the great majority of the Members of the House attended the All Star Baseball Game and the House was in session only for the purpose of the reading of the

Journal and transaction of minor matters. It was agreed that there would be no quorum call or roll call vote on any legislation. Two Members of the House, Representative Gross of Iowa and Representative Clare E. Hoffman of Michigan, are constantly complaining of the fact that Members do not attend the sessions of the House and they attempt to correct this situation by constantly making the point of order that a quorum is not present, and in this manner many quorum calls are requested. On Tuesday, Representative Hoffman repeatedly deplored the scant attendance and said he was sure the absent Members were detained on pressing business, doing research in the Library of Congress, plodding through the Government agencies downtown on behalf of their constituents, or attending committee sessions. Therefore, the good Congressman said he was restraining the point of no quorum, but he warned that this would not be the procedure if and when such an occasion took place again here in Washington. Without mentioning the word "baseball" you could almost hear the crack of the bat.

July 16, 1956

I received a letter today from Paul M. Butler, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, requesting that I make political speeches in the

November election outside of Kentucky. I am inclined to answer his request, saying that all the speeches made by Kentuckians this year should be made in Kentucky. With John Sherman Cooper and Thurston B. Morton running and with President Eisenhower seeking re-election, we will have lots of fun in Kentucky.

I attended the dedication ceremonies at Calhoun, Kentucky on July 14, dedicating the two new locks and dam on Green River. There were some six thousand people present and this was the hottest day so far this summer. Regardless of the weather, everyone seemed to enjoy the program and I sincerely believe that we are well along the way with our River Development Program. Our new locks and dams and canalization work on Green River will be of great benefit in the future. We should soon see industrial development.

Today we take up for consideration that famous bill H.R. 627, designated as the Civil Rights Bill. We will have two days general debate and continue until final action is secured. This is the first bill that we have had on the Floor with debate to continue as long as two days. In my opinion this bill will take all of this week and will generate more heat than any bill we have had since I have been in Congress.

While at Bowling Green this past weekend, I stopped by the Bowling Green-Warren County Hospital to visit my mother-in-law, Mrs. F. D. Reardon, who is a patient. She seems to be in fine spirits, but is a mighty sick lady.

July 17, 1956

The Civil Rights Bill is up again today for debate. Yesterday the rule was adopted calling for two days of general debate and the Members from Mississippi, Georgia and Louisiana started. I believe that this Bill will pass the House, but I am positive that same will never be moved in the Senate.

Russia called on the United States and Britain to agree that all three countries should stop testing nuclear weapons. It was stated that the question of the prohibition of atomic and hydrogen bombs can be separated from the general problem of disarmament.

It seems that the tented circus as it now exists is a thing of the past. Yesterday, Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Combined Shows, advertised as the "Greatest Show on Earth" announced that it is folding its circus tents and returning to winter quarters at Sarasota, Florida. Circuses are now plagued by hot weather and in the future will show only in large auditoriums and stadiums which are air conditioned.



It now looks like we may adjourn on Saturday, July 28th.

The Senate Appropriations Committee has gone on record against any American aid for Egypt for the building of the Aswon Dam on the Nile River, unless the matter is again referred to Congress. This matter came before my Subcommittee on Mutual Security Appropriations and our Subcommittee clearly indicated to the Secretary of State Dulles that we would not be interesting in seeing American money invested in this project.

July 19, 1956

We are reading the Civil Rights Bill under the Five Minute Rule today. This will continue for two days and then we will have the vote on final passage. This particular Bill comes from the Committee on Judiciary with the Chairman being Manny Celler, Democrat of New York City. Martin Dies, son of the former Congressman and one of the outstanding Members of the House, is vigorously opposing the Civil Rights Bill and in a colloquy with Chairman Celler was confronted with one of his questions being answered by the good Chairman who used an Alice in Wonderland story to emphasize his point. Dies quickly inquired if Alice had written this particular Bill. The House just hollered and in yesterday's

Evening Star appeared an editorial entitled, "Alice Outdone".

"The expectation is that the House, with both Republicans and Northern Democrats reacting in the usual way to political pressure, will pass the civil rights bill. There is an equally strong expectation that it will not pass the Senate.

"It is a good thing, in our judgment, that it will not. For anyone who takes the trouble to read the Record of the House debate cannot fail to come away with the firm impression that few, if any, House Members fully understand the implications of this far-reaching bill.

"For example, Representative Celler, Democrat of New York, one of the bill's sponsors, was asked whether it gives the right to sue members of a State legislature for damages for acts done in the exercise of their sworn duty. Mr. Celler wasn't sure. 'That is a difficult question to answer,' he said, 'but I am inclined to believe it would not.'

"There were many questions, and no satisfactory answers, about a provision which gives the Attorney General authority to intervene when someone is 'about to engage in an act' which might

curtail a civil right. Representative Tumulty, Democrat of New Jersey, a civil rights supporter, was disturbed by this and wanted to know what it meant. Representative Fulton, Republican of Pennsylvania, answered him with this question: 'Which part of the Democratic Party or what Democratic Party are you representing?'

"Perhaps the most appropriate exchange came between Mr. Celler and Representative Dies of Texas. Mr. Dies had been asking some needling questions designed to focus attention on what he regarded as flaws in the bill. This reminded Mr. Celler of an exchange between Alice and Humpty Dumpty in which Alice asked: 'How can you make words mean so many different things?' To which Mr. Dies responded: 'Did Alice write this bill?'

"It is our understanding that the Attorney General wrote the bill. But maybe Alice, or Humpty Dumpty, had a hand in it. At any rate its words mean, or could mean, so many different things that we think it ought to undergo careful, thorough and searching study before it ever becomes law."

The Courier Journal of July 17th carried a fine editorial entitled "Better Days for the Green River". This editorial reads as follows:

"A lot of people had a good time down at Calhoun last Saturday, dedicating the two new locks that will open up the Lower Green River to heavy barge traffic. It was a day filled with speeches, ribbon-cutting, beauty queens, music and political hand-shaking, and no one seemed to mind that there were more beauty queens -- 31 of them, one for each county in the Green River Valley -- than politicians.

"There was good reason for rejoicing. For the past 20 years the valley has been in the midst of a semi-depression, losing population and job opportunities while surrounding areas prospered. Along the banks of the Green River lie some of the world's largest deposits of high-grade coal, and there is plenty of water in the stream to encourage industrial use, but poor transportation has been too much of an obstacle. The old locks on the river, two of which have now been replaced with modern structures, could not accommodate Ohio River barges, and rail shipping costs put local coal operators at a disadvantage with nearby coal producers who had access to lower-cost river transport. The new locks, built to handle Ohio barge traffic, will change all this. Already, contracts have been signed for 3,000,000 tons of Green River coal each year, and more are doubtless on the way.

"There was plenty of barbecue, oratory and calliope music in Calhoun Saturday. And there was enough credit to go around, too. Certainly the Green River Valley Citizens League had reason for pride. From the day C. A. Reis first started agitating for improvement of the river, this group has never quit trying, and Saturday's celebration was largely the product of the stubborn, undiscouraged efforts of its members. Credit is due, too, to Congressman William Natcher and Senator Earle Clements, both of whom fought for river improvement appropriations in Washington, and whose efforts finally resulted in construction of the two now completed locks.

"Work on the Green is not finished, though. Other upstream locks and dams are needed. Flood control on the river will never be effected until the flood control reservoirs on the Rough, Nolin and Barren Rivers are finished. There is dredging and channel-straightening work to be done before the whole river is cleared for big-barge traffic. But if the people of the valley and our representatives in Congress continue the good work, there's a better day coming for the counties along the Green River Valley."

Yesterday we adopted a Resolution which became a part of an Agriculture

Bill under consideration providing that it is the sense of the Congress that the Communist China government should not be admitted to membership in the United Nations as the representative of China. This was attached to the Bill by way of just how the Members of Congress feel about this particular matter. This amendment was adopted unanimously.

The House Civil Service Committee yesterday approved legislation to liberalize substantially the civil service retirement benefits of Federal workers and their families. This bill will come to the Floor in the next few days.

It now seems that the United States probably will continue to reduce its land forces while maintaining a selective atomic deterrent superior or equal to the Soviet Unions.

July 20, 1956

I decided several days ago to have a luncheon for the Democratic Members of the House and Senate from Kentucky. We have almost reached adjournment and I thought this would be a good time to get all the fellows together. After making plans, I was informed that Governor A. B. Chandler, his executive secretary, Harry Davis, and his publicity secretary, Ed Eastring,

would be here in Washington and I invited these three gentlemen. I next decided to invite Robert L. Riggs and Ed Edstrom of the Louisville Courier Journal Bureau here in Washington. Next I invited H. H. Morris, a Kentuckian who is House Postmaster, and then I was informed that ex-Governor Lawrence W. Weatherby and now the Democratic nominee for the U. S. Senate to fill Senator Barkley's unexpired term, would be in Washington. I invited him and next was informed that Bill Young, the Democratic November election chairman, would also arrive about noon, so he too was invited. All told, sixteen were present and notwithstanding the bitter statements that have been made during the past twelve months, and the political feuds we were all able to sit down and enjoy a nice lunch together. Everyone went out of his way to be nice to his bitterest enemy and I had to announce two or three times that I knew all the Members were busy and any time they desired we would adjourn. After dessert there was more conversation and then upon arising from the table several of the fellows just stood around and continued talking. I am very much interested in reading Rigg's article in today's Courier concerning this particular meeting.

Governor A. B. Chandler informed us that he is definitely a candidate

for nomination as President and will make a western trip before the convention in Chicago on August 13th. I have my doubts that his candidacy will be noticed to any great extent, but at the same time I wish him well in his endeavor.

The House Rules Committee approved yesterday by a split vote authorizing a \$400 million reactor construction program to spur the development of atomic power for civilian use. This particular appropriation bill will be passed upon by my committee this morning and coal interests throughout the United States are bitterly opposing this bill. The changeover from atomic energy will play havoc with our present day fuels and I only hope that same is not too rapid.

The House rejected President Eisenhower's proposal to barter surplus U.S. food to Communist countries in exchange for strategic goods and materials on Wednesday of this week. This particular bill authorized an increase of \$1,500,000,000 to \$3 billion the amount of surplus commodities that may be sold for foreign currency. The Bill was approved 389 to 6 with the barter provision out.

We still have several controversial bills up for action before we



adjourn -- housing bill, final vote on civil rights, atomic energy appropriations, etc.

Representative James Roosevelt appeared in the gallery with his mother, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. She still has the spontaneous smile but certainly is showing her age.

The Senate finally passed the House Social Security Amendments Bill making disabled workers eligible at 50 and women at age 62. Coverage under this Bill extends Social Security benefits to dentists and two classes of farmers. Social Security now covers everyone with the exception of doctors, Government employees and two classes of agricultural workers.

By a vote of 51 to 41 the Senate defeated the Hell's Canyon High Dam for public power yesterday. This clears the way for three low dams to be constructed by private utilities and was a real victory for private utilities. In the State of Idaho this will be one of the main campaign issues in the November election.

July 21, 1956

A few days ago the Senate Republican Policy Committee came out with some nonsense to the effect that the Communists

were pulling for a Democratic victory at the polls this November. This was supposed to prod the voters into marking their ballots for the Republican ticket, thereby saving the country from this Communist plot. Now it appears that Jacob Malik, Russian Ambassador to London, is an Eisenhower man. When he learned that Senator Knowland had said that the President was going to run again, he declared: "This is fine news. I'm for Eisenhower." I do not know what the Senate Republican Policy Committee is going to do about this. If it wants to be logical and consistent, it should call upon the voters to put Mr. Malik in his place by voting against Mr. Eisenhower.

The Justice Department is requesting the Court of Claims to dismiss the suit which the Dixon-Yates combine has brought against the Government. The Dixon-Yates group filed suit to regain a little over three and one-half million dollars from the Government for money expended on the T.V.A. blunder.

As the Democratic Convention, now less than four weeks off, draws closer the Stevenson nomination seems generally conceded. I do not believe that he is as strong as he was in 1952 and that a better choice could be made.

Socialist election gains have hurt Japan's rearmament program.

Japan to me, is quite a mystery. On January 1, 1946, at the close of World War II there were no Communists in Japan. Since the close of World War II we have expended fifty-four billion dollars in Foreign Aid with Japan one of the recipients to the tune of almost four billion. Today Japan has more freedom, necessities of life, and in fact, a better life than anytime during their entire history. Communications, transportation, and the economic situation generally is excellent in Japan. On January 1, 1946, there were no Communists in Japan. Today there are 1,980,000 Communists organized openly. They hold weekly meetings and participate as any other organization would perform in a free country. Communism, therefore, does not necessarily follow poverty because here we have prosperity.

July 24, 1956

The Civil Rights Bill was passed in the House yesterday by a vote of 279 to 126. I voted against this bill and still believe that adequate remedies are provided for under the Constitution.

We were in session until almost 8 o'clock last night and several bills were called out under the Suspension of the Rules. Three bills were defeated and should have been defeated. Always

during the last few days of the session bills are called up with the hope that the rush to adjourn will permit passage. A great many of these bills cannot be brought out under a Rule because the Rule will not be granted.

Russia's tremendous industrial development since the end of World War II is changing the "cold war" into an economic war. It now seems that the soviet is proceeding to follow Karl Marx's suggestion that Russia must be established as the world's greatest economic power. Since the death of Stalin the Iron Curtain has parted sufficiently to establish the fact that Russia is no longer an agriculture nation but an industrial one.

Judging from information released during the past ten days, our Government now has good reason to believe that some twenty American airmen are being held captive in Russia and that some of these men have been prisoners since April 1950.

During the consideration of the Civil Rights Bill a great many amusing events took place. According to the proponents this Bill would guarantee freedom from economic pressures or pressures against voting because of race, color, religion, or national origin. While the Bill was being read under the

Five Minute Rule, many quotations were heard from the Bible, mythology, American history, English history, French history, the writings and speeches of Hitler, Mussolini, Marx, Lenin, and Stalin. Also Mother Goose, Aesop, Romeo and Juliet, Charles III, Alice in Wonderland, The Founding Fathers, the late Abraham Lincoln, the lives of the Men at Valley Forge, Carpetbaggers, and Cheap Japanese textile imports. Representative James Tumulty of New Jersey (Democrat) who weighs 310 pounds, suggested that size as well as age and sex be added to the wording. He stated that his wife has to get a skooter in order to press his shirts and several days ago when he got up to leave the ballpark he was in another woman's lap.

Our State Department's announcement that we would not participate in the construction of the Aswan Dam apparently is not stopping Egypt's President Nasser, because announcement was made yesterday that Egypt would proceed with the construction of this dam. I wonder where the money will come from.

Our Whip Notice contains some ten bills to be called up for action today and with the Rules suspended probably an additional ten will be heard before we adjourn tonight.

July 26, 1956

H.R. 12061 Atomic Energy Bill providing for the construction by the Federal Government of nuclear reactors costing some \$440 million was defeated in the House by nine votes. Private utilities and big business generally was against this Bill. The coal people throughout the United States became almost hysterical. Congressman Cole of New York offered an amendment for the Administration providing that the provisions of the Bill would be permissive instead of mandatory, and this to me destroyed the Bill. I voted against this Bill. This Bill in its original form was simply a move forward and same should have passed.

On this particular Bill my Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, Clarence Cannon of Missouri, made a very vigorous five minute speech in favor of the passage of this Bill, and when time was called, turned to the Chairman making an oral motion that the enacting clause be stricken. Objection was heard because under the rules of the House such a preferential motion must be in writing. My Chairman, who is the author of "Cannon On Procedure" which is the rule book used by the House, very calmly reached in his pocket and pulled out a written motion. Everyone laughed and in this manner

Mr. Cannon secured an additional five minutes. When he finished, Representative Charles Halleck of Indiana, who was leading the fight of the Administration against the Bill and objected to my Chairman, withdrew his motion thereby placing the motion in order for a vote. Division was requested and then tellers. The motion was defeated by two votes and if same had passed my good Chairman's face would have been red for years to come.

We are driving for adjournment and are having late sessions each day.

Yesterday, among a great many bills passed, was H.R. 11742, the Housing Act of 1956. This bill provides for 35,000 units per year for two years.

Yesterday the Mutual Security Subcommittee on Appropriations met in conference with Senators Hayden, Chairman of the Senate Appropriation Committee and a Member of Congress since 1913.-- the year Arizona was admitted to the Union -- and Richard Russell of Georgia, Ellender of Louisiana, Lister Hill of Alabama, Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts, Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, Dirksen of Illinois, and William Knowland of California. We succeeded in agreeing and the Conference Report was signed. The House yielded but did not go the

full amount approved by the Senate. This Conference Report will come up for approval in both Houses today.

Jordan and Israeli forces exchanged fire west of Jerusalem yesterday.

Senator Eugene D. Millikin of Colorado, one of the Republican leaders in Congress, announced yesterday that he would retire at the end of this year because of his health.

William Knowland, Republican leader in the Senate, informed President Eisenhower yesterday that the Civil Rights Bill was doomed and that it would be useless to try to bring same to the Floor of the Senate for action.

The Administration's \$430 million postal rate increase bill has hit a snag in the Senate.

According to the NAACP, Civil Rights will be the main domestic issue at forthcoming national party conventions.

July 27, 1956

If we are exceedingly lucky we will adjourn sometime during the night. A great many bills were not acted upon this session but all in all I think we have had a great year.



The 84th Congress will go down in history as having originated the largest public works program in the history of the world. During the Second Session H.R. 10660, the Federal Highway Act of 1956, was passed providing for an expenditure of \$33,400,000,000 over a thirteen year period. Forty-one thousand miles of interstate highways are included, together with provisions for primary, secondary and urban roads throughout the United States. Under the terms of this bill Kentucky will receive for the fiscal years 1957 and 1958 combined \$13,809,000 for primary, secondary and urban roads, and \$57,770,000 will be expended on the interstate system, making a total of \$71,579,000.

As you know, all appropriation measures must originate in the House, and, as a Member of the Committee on Appropriations, I participated in the passage of some 19 bills which will appropriate approximately \$65,900,000,000. Yesterday the Mutual Security Conference Report was adopted providing for a foreign aid expenditure for fiscal year 1957 of \$3,766,570,000. This is \$341,450,000 more than the amount passed in the House Bill, and \$344,350,000 less than passed in the Senate Bill. This amount is \$1,093,405,000 less than the amount requested by the President and the Bureau of the Budget.

Our Public Works Bill from the Committee on Appropriations provided for \$21,596,400 for river and harbor improvements in the State of Kentucky. Only ten other States in the United States received as much as Kentucky. \$1,500,000 of this amount is for the continuation of the construction of the Rough River Reservoir in my Congressional District. One hundred thousand dollars of the total amount listed above is for advance planning and design for the Nolin River Reservoir in the Second District, \$17,000 for planning for Cypress Creek in the Second District, and \$10,000 for planning for the Pond River Project in the Second District.

Since 1954 we have started in our District the new lock at Spottsville in Henderson County, new lock and dam at Runsey, Kentucky in McLean County, canalization of Green River beginning at its mouth at the Ohio River and extending 103 miles to Rochester, Kentucky -- 9 feet deep, 200 feet wide -- Rough River Reservoir construction in Breckinridge and Grayson Counties, Nolin River Reservoir in Edmonson County, now in planning stage.

Two important bills pertaining to our veterans passed during the Second Session of the 84th Congress. H.R. 12038 provides for 10 percent increase for service-connected disability veterans.

\$174,000,000 per year required for payment of the increase. H.R. 7886 provided for a pension of \$105 per month for World War I Veterans -- veterans who are single and income of \$1800 or less entitled, and married veterans with \$2700 income or less entitled.

A number of important bills pertaining to agriculture passed during the Second Session of the 84th Congress. One of the most important bills from the standpoint of my District, and the State of Kentucky generally, was the bill sponsored by the Kentucky Members of the House and Senate restoring the 15 percent cut for burley and dark tobacco acreage. The Secretary of Agriculture issued order directing acreage cut, and this legislation restored the acreage cut by the Secretary. H.R. 8750 broadens Watershed and Flood Prevention Program, allocating share of cost among Federal and local interest, which applies especially to structures. This particular cost had to be paid by the local interest and property owners heretofore -- such as small dams on creeks. H.R. 12 provides for reduction of our surplus commodities and attempts to benefit agriculture generally. This bill is designated as the Soil Bank Bill. H.R. 8780 relieves the farmers of excise tax on gasoline and oil used in farm machinery. H.R. 3903 increases from \$1,500,000,000 to \$3,000,000,000

the limit on sales of surplus commodities for foreign currency, and amends the Foreign Agricultural Trade Development Act of 1954.

One of the most important pieces of legislation passed by the Second Session of the 84th Congress is H.R. 7225 which provides Social Security benefits to women to begin at age sixty-two, and to disabled persons at age fifty instead of sixty-five.

Several important bills pertaining to retirement benefits passed the Second Session of the 84th Congress, one of which is the increase benefit payment provided for railroad employees.

The sale of narcotics and the effect of same upon our people has reached the critical stage. We passed H.R. 11619 fixing penalty at death or life imprisonment for illicit drug peddlers who sell to children under eighteen years of age. This bill also provides for more effective control of narcotics.

With the United States of America possessing a national debt of some \$278,000,000,000, which is several billion dollars more than the debt of all the other countries in the world, which according to my information amounts to \$206,000,000,000, witnessed

additional legislation designated as H.R. 11740, which passed providing temporary increase of statutory limit of our National debt from \$275,000,000,00 to \$278,000,000,000 for fiscal year ending June 30, 1957.

A number of bills pertaining to small business interests were passed by Congress, and to me, this is important legislation. The problem confronting agriculture and small business in this country today is a serious one and must have an immediate solution. H.R. 9875, a bill exempting from Federal admission tax tickets of \$1.00 or less for movies passed.

A number of bills making provision for our natural resources passed during the Second Session of the 84th Congress. One of these bills which means a great deal to the State of Kentucky and my District is S. 890, which increases by \$1,000,000 a year Federal Reserve grants to states, and expands program for water pollution control to \$50,000,000 a year for a five year period.

Another bill which passed the House today that means a lot to the Second Congressional District of Kentucky is H.R. 10662 which creates a bridge commission for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating a bridge across

the Ohio River at or near Cannelton, Indiana and Hawesville, Kentucky, and to purchase and operate a ferry at such location until the bridge is completed. This is a thirty year bond issue matter with toll bridge to be operated until bonds retired. Upon retirement of bonds the bridge is to be deeded jointly to the State of Indiana and the State of Kentucky.

The appropriation bill for the Department of Agriculture provides the necessary funds for the planning and survey of the three large watershed projects in the Second District of Kentucky. These projects are the Mud River Watershed, Cypress Creek and Canoe Creek Watersheds. To give you some idea about the size of these watersheds, the Mud River Watershed is located in three counties and contains 240,000 acres of land. Soil Conservation and these particular watershed projects are all important to the Second District of Kentucky.

During the Second Session of the 84th Congress my Committee on Appropriations appropriated for the Department of the Interior and related agencies an additional amount for Mammoth Cave National Park which is located in the Second District of Kentucky. The additional amounts to be received for Mammoth Cave National Park include

\$350,000 for construction of Public Use Building, \$202,000 for new snowball dining room underground comfort station, \$52,300 for lift and utilities, and \$93,200 for new roads and trails.

Some important legislation was not acted upon and other legislation of great benefit to our people was either defeated or sidetracked. The accomplishments of the Second Session of the 84th Congress are many and of great benefit to our people.

I am a Member of the Subcommittee on Agricultural Appropriations and for the fiscal year 1957 our Committee appropriated additional amounts for research and marketing which will be of great benefit to our farmers. In the Second District of Kentucky we have 12,572 farm cooperators in Soil Conservation. We appropriated 67½ million dollars for conservation operations, which is \$4,557,225 more than the 1956 appropriations; 17½ million dollars for watershed protection, which is \$4,404,935 more than the 1956 appropriations; \$12,000,000 for flood prevention which is \$2,000,000 more than the 1956 appropriation. We recommended a total of \$97,232,000 for soil conservation, which is an increase of \$12,295,190 over the 1956 appropriation, and provides ample funds and additional

technicians which are desperately needed at the present time. In this bill we appropriated \$100,000,000 for our School Lunch Program which is \$16,764,788 more than the 1956 appropriation. This bill also appropriates \$53,265,000 for Extension Service, which is an increase of \$5,145,000 over the 1956 appropriation. This bill also appropriated \$217,500,000 for our Agricultural Conservation Program. Additional research for tobacco and its by-products is provided for under this bill. The Second District of Kentucky is a great tobacco producing area, and also the State of Kentucky.

July 28, 1956

This past week, the Swedish liner, The Stockholm, and the Italian liner, The Andrea Doria, collided in a heavy fog off of Nantucket. The Stockholm carried 530 passengers plus a crew and The Andrea Doria 535 passengers plus crew. The Andrea Doria sank within a few hours and due to an excellent Coast Guard and ship rescue only some six persons are listed as dead.

Diplomatic relations between Egypt and British and French governments reached a crisis yesterday over Egypt's seizure of the Suez Canal Company under a naturalization decree.



The above shipwreck will bring on many questions. The two ships were each ably commanded and equipped with nearly every safety device including radar.

As finally enacted, the Senate compromise bill on Foreign Aid was a little disappointing to the President. His original request of \$4,900,000,000 was cut down to \$3,700,000,000. The cut in funds applying mostly to weapons seems somewhat drastic but to me was right.

The 84th Congress adjourned last night in a mood marked more by a spirit of compromise than by the political fighting which lies ahead in the Presidential campaign. The gavel fell in the House at 11:56 p.m. and the Senate adjourned on the stroke of midnight. During the final hours with the galleries crowded there was a great deal of singing and laughter on the Floor with everyone seeming to be having a good time. When the Speaker named the Committee to inform the President that the House was ready to adjourn and received the report back from President Eisenhower, which was delivered by the Majority Leader, John W. McCormack of Massachusetts, and Joseph W. Martin of Massachusetts, and heard that the President had no further request and extended his regards to Mr. Sam --

Mr. Sam our Speaker was somewhat affected by this greeting and filled up emotionally. Our Speaker replied that a long time ago he told the President that he was the most distinguished of all his constituents.

Before adjourning, the House and Senate approved a second supplemental appropriations bill and passed a compromise Federal housing bill.

The Housing Bill passed provides for 70,000 new housing units this year and next year. It fell far short of the 135,000 units for three years which the Senate approved last May.

With Congress now in adjournment I will attempt to catch up with my office work and then drive down to Kentucky.

July 30, 1956

The Democratic Controlled 84th Congress closed its doors early Saturday morning after completing for better or worse the legislative record it will carry to the people in the Presidential and Congressional elections this fall.

Many bills were considered major legislation and some of same were passed and signed by the President.

The Electoral College reform bill was killed in the Senate; Foreign Aid Program passed and signed by the President; Alaskan and Hawaiian Statehood bills killed in the House; Omnibus Farm Bill passed and vetoed by the President; Revised Farm Bill passed and signed by the President. Highway Program passed and signed by the President. Frying Pan-Arkansas killed in the House; Upper Colorado passed and signed by the President; Social Security passed and to be signed by the President; School Construction killed in the House; Sugar Act Extension passed and signed by the President; Campaign Spending cleared Senate Committee and stopped; Natural Gas passed and vetoed by the President; Hells Canyon killed in the Senate; OTC Membership cleared House Committee and stopped; Housing - Seventy Thousand Units passed and to be signed by the President; Civil Rights passed the House and stopped. Immigration passed the Senate and stopped; Veterans Pension passed the House and stopped; Disaster Insurance passed and to be signed by the President; Excise Corporation Taxes passed and signed by the President; Postal Rate Increases passed the House and stopped in the Senate Committee.

During the 84th Congress the Farm Problem has been the most stubborn of

the domestic problems. The parity ratio dropped from 100 in the last year of the Truman Administration to 92 in 1954 and 81 last March. According to recent reports it now stands at about 86. The 1.2 billion Soil Bank Program passed.

The 84th Congress treated the President much better than the 83rd G.O.P. Congress. It gave the President a three year extension of his authority to negotiate Reciprocal Trade Agreements whereas the 83rd granted him two one year extensions. Only last week Congress appropriated \$3,700,000,000 for Foreign Aid after the President had asked for \$4,900,000,000.

For National Defense we appropriated some \$35 billion. For Labor Congress pushed through a minimum wage raise from 75 cents to \$1.00.

School Construction was killed due to the race issue.

While passing 790 million dollar Upper Colorado River irrigation and reclamation project, Congress turned down the Democratic plan for a single high dam at Hells Canyon in Idaho.

Harold Stassen blasted Richard Nixon last week, saying that an Eisenhower-Herter ticket would be much stronger than an Eisenhower-Nixon ticket.

The last two Supplemental bills passed by the Congress provided \$1,600,000,000 and \$2,200,000,000.

Like all of its predecessors, the 84th Congress came to an end without having satisfied everybody. Under its Democratic leadership it has labored hard and accomplished a considerable amount of work while serving the best interest of the Nation.

August 11, 1956

I arrived in Bowling Green on Wednesday, August 1.

Mrs. F. D. Reardon, my mother-in-law, is still in serious condition at the Bowling Green-Warren County hospital with the doctors reporting that she has no chance to recover.

For the past few days I have taken it easy and feel much better.

On Thursday, August 9, I delivered the principal address at the annual meeting of the Henderson County Farm

Bureau. Some 3,000 people were present and after all kinds of food was consumed the program was held in Atkinson Park. My speech pertained to agriculture, and I stressed the fact that in my opinion part of the farmer's problem today was brought about as a result of our Foreign Aid program. Since 1948 nearly \$3 billion has been expended in some 45 countries to aid agriculture and the production of commodities which compete in the foreign markets with our commodities. Our exports amount to slightly over \$3 billion in agricultural commodities at the present time and the farmers' income has declined 32 percent since 1947.

President Eisenhower certainly acted up yesterday. The Omnibus River and Harbor, beach, erosion and flood control project bill, H.R. 12080, containing hundreds of projects throughout the 48 States consisting when completed a total of \$1,600,000,000 was vetoed by the President. He gave as his reason that a number of these projects were not necessary and that he did not have adequate information on others.

The last Omnibus River and Harbor Bill was in the year 1938 and since that time careful studies have been

made of all of the projects contained in the new Bill, and thousands of dollars was expended by delegations from all the States in the United States coming to Washington to testify in behalf of their particular project. All of these projects are necessary at the present time and will mean a great deal to our country. The President failed to mention two amendments that were hooked on to this Bill in the Senate. One of these amendments pertained to a low-flow provision which authorized the Corps of Engineers in drought periods and during emergencies to release additional water beneficial to municipalities, domestic and industries along the rivers, reservoirs and dams and empoundments. Big business generally is not in favor of small industries locating on the rivers taking advantage of river and harbor projects and I am positive that this amendment played just as much part in the President's mind as the reason that he gave. Another amendment provided that municipalities located along streams would be reimbursed by the Federal government for physical structures, outlets and other sewerage and water fixtures which had to be moved or were destroyed by the Federal government when new river and harbor projects were constructed. This is only a fair provision, and certainly

should have caused no trouble. The low-flow provision means a great deal to my section of the country.

The President's veto of the above Bill came as a complete surprise, and he indicated that no omnibus bill or bill of similar nature had been vetoed during the past thirty years. In Korea, today we are building a multi-purpose dam and canal set-up which will cost when completed some \$450,000,000. We have spent billions of our dollars on river, harbor, flood control and irrigation projects throughout the world since World War II, and when you think of a veto of a measure containing hundreds of projects in our country for our people it makes you boiling mad. I am positive that not only the Democratic Senators in the Western States but also the Republican Senators are so mad that they are just bouncing.

To continue his vetoing spree, the President permitted the bill authorizing the construction of the bridge from Cannelton, Indiana to Hawesville, Kentucky in my District to die for want of signature. This is known as a pocket veto. Since 1867 Henderson County and the section on my side of the river have attempted to build a bridge and Congressman Winfield Denton of Indiana and I succeeded in having H.R. 10662 passed during the



closing days of the past session of Congress authorizing this construction.

This Bill provided for a bridge commission to issue revenue bonds retiring same from tolls at no cost to the Federal government. Upon payment of the bonds the bridge was to be deeded to Indiana and Kentucky jointly like all other bridges crossing navigable streams. The President said that bridges should be constructed and authorized by the States and that the Federal government should not enter into such pacts. Such an interpretation would mean that the State of Indiana and the State of Kentucky acting through their respective legislators would pass the necessary bills providing for the construction of the bridge; bonds would be issued and retired and then the bridge would be owned by the respective states. Cities and towns now having bridges across the Ohio River would naturally be against the construction of any additional bridges because they want the people to cross the river at their points. In addition to this, other towns and cities would say "Yes, we will have our Representatives and Senators go along on a particular bridge providing they build one for us." It would be an endless circle and naturally would not work to the advantage of certain sections of the States along the rivers. A veto of

this particular Bill simply means that the Committee in Congress would hesitate to permit such a Bill out again because the Members would simply say that the President will veto it and time would be wasted.

Hancock County is back where it was, and if President Eisenhower had signed this Bill Hawesville, Kentucky and Hancock County would have changed over night, and this section of my District on the Ohio River would have started booming. No justification whatsoever can be given for the President's action in this matter.

The Democratic National Convention will open on Monday, and it appears today that Adlai will be the nominee on either the first or second ballot. Stevenson, Governor Harriman of New York, and a fellow by the name of A. B. Chandler of Kentucky are dashing through the hotel corridors in Chicago attempting to receive the necessary number of delegate votes for the nomination. Ex-President Truman indicated yesterday that he would make known his wishes in the matter today and I have an idea that he would go home and sit down in Independence, Missouri and behave himself.

Congressman Henshaw of California died following the adjournment of

Congress. On Wednesday before we adjourned he suffered a slight heart attack on the Floor.

Taps were sounded for Albert Woolson, age 109, last week. He was the last of America's 2,600,000 boys in blue who fought for the North in the Civil War.

You often hear people say "Never admit defeat." This to me is a fine slogan and especially when you recall that an outstanding American failed in business in 1831; defeated for Legislature in 1832; again failed in business in 1833; elected to legislature in 1834; sweetheart died in 1835; had nervous breakdown in 1836; defeated for speaker of legislature in 1838; defeated for Elector in 1840; defeated for Congress in 1843; elected to Congress in 1846; defeated for Congress in 1848; defeated for Senate in 1855; defeated for Vice-President in 1856; defeated for Senate in 1858; elected President of the United States in 1860. This great American was a man by the name of Abraham Lincoln.

August 14, 1956

During the second session of the 84th Congress, the House was in session 118 days. Five thousand four hundred seventy-one pages were used in the

Congressional Record. The Senate consumed 8,489 pages, making a total of 13,960. Four hundred sixty-one Public Bills were enacted into law and 339 Private Bills. The Senate passed 1,555 bills and the House 1,236 bills. Five thousand two hundred sixty bills were introduced in the House and 1,765 in the Senate, making a total of 7,025.

One thousand two hundred fifty-two postmasters were confirmed and 628 were unconfirmed. Eight thousand four hundred twenty-five Army nominations were confirmed; 6,217 Air Force nominations; 18,437 Navy nominations; 5,534 Marine Corps nominations and 2,932 civilian nominations other than postmasters were confirmed.

Nineteen appropriation bills were passed appropriating \$60,647,917,590. This was \$245,060,947 less than the estimate of \$60,892,978,537.

Governor Frank G. Clement of Tennessee delivered the keynote address last night before the National Democratic Convention in Chicago. Governor Clement is one of the outstanding young speakers of the South but delivered a right poor speech. In this particular instance, the speech should have been prepared by a group of men who know the issues and the importance of same, and

Governor Clement should have delivered the speech. After the speech was completed the Tennessee Delegation brought the banner down in front of the Speaker's rostrum but there was no parade or ovation. Ordinarily a great ovation is given a keynoter on completion of his speech, and I recall distinctly in 1940 that the ovation lasted about 55 minutes. The speech was a fighting speech to a certain extent, but was so worded that same would have been much better received in Dixon, Tennessee than before the Chicago Democratic National Convention, and the television audience of America. There was just no spirit or enthusiasm. Mrs. Roosevelt made a much better speech than she did at the 1940 Convention and from what I understand it was also better than the speech she made before the 1944 Convention. The front runners according to the press are Governor Stevenson with some 500 votes; Governor Harriman with some 250 votes; and the different favorite son candidates who are claiming about 300 votes. The balance of the delegation are not committed. Former President Truman endorsed Governor Harriman on Sunday, and this may throw the Convention into a deadlock with neither Stevenson nor Harriman receiving the nomination. The fourth or fifth ballot will tell the story as to just what affect Mr. Truman's endorsement will

will have upon the Convention. Up until this announcement was made it seemed that Governor Stevenson would be nominated on either the first or second ballot and the odds are still in his favor.

Due principally to unusually large revenues resulting from the high level of business, the Treasury ended fiscal year 1956 with a \$1.7 billion surplus which was applied to debt reduction. Federal spending was on the rise. In 1955, it amounted to \$64.6 billion and in 1956 to \$66.4 billion with 1957 spending estimated at \$65.9 billion.

Some tax increases were voted -- new highway bill and liberalized Social Security program. Excise taxes generally were extended and the 52 percent corporate income rate went over for another year.

PL 1010 exempts admissions of 90 cents or less and PL 796 eliminates the 10 percent tax on travel to the Caribbean, Mexico and Canada.

For national defense, we appropriated \$34.7 billion compared with \$31.9 billion for the previous year. Congress insisted upon more strength in the Air Force and appropriated an additional \$900,000,000 which the Secretary of Defense, Charles Wilson, states will not be necessary.

We also passed Public Law 733 authorizing an \$87,000,000 two and one-half year stockpiling of tungsten, asbestos, florspar and columbium-tantalum.

PL 605 continues to July 1, 1957, authorizing the Defense Department to stockpile machine tools.

PL 893 requires the registration of any U.S. resident who ever trained under a foreign espionage corps.

PL 766 strengthens penalties for seditious conspiracy and attempts to overthrow the Government.

PL 880 expands and liberalizes the Social Security program with the 62 year provision for women and 50 year provision for disability being the main features.

PL 803 increases Workmen's Compensation payments for longshoremen and revises the District of Columbia Workmen's Compensation Law.

PL 1030 increases employee and employer payments into the Railroad Retirement Fund.

PL 1020 revises the National Housing Act.

PL 540 retains flexible supports for the basics, but gives Benson authority to try a two-price plan on rice if he wishes; pegs feed grains for 76 percent of parity for this year; freezes cotton and rice acreage allotments for two years; adds \$500 million to the funds for subsidizing exports of surpluses; directs the CCC to sell its stocks of long-staple cotton at world prices; increases to \$500 million from \$300 million the amount of surplus that can be donated for disaster, famine and foreign relief.

PL 540 also included a \$1.2 billion two-part soil bank plan with no authority for 1956 prepayments on 1957 crops. It was argued in Congress that such payments might influence voting in November. Secretary Benson decided to make soil bank payments this year to farmers who plowed up some of their plantings and when the deadline arrived of July 27 the Secretary had obligated \$224 million which will be paid out this Fall.

PL 962 increases to \$3 billion from \$1½ billion the amount of farm surpluses that may be sold abroad for foreign currencies.

PL 466 exempts farmers from the Federal tax on gasoline and oil they use in farm machinery.



PL 752 extends the school milk program through 1958 and adds to it non-profit nursery schools, camps and settlement houses.

PL 1018 broadens the scope of the watershed act, adding a \$5 million loan program.

PL 627 authorizes the biggest highway building program in history. Cost is estimated at \$32.9 billion with the Federal share \$27.7 billion.

PL 957 permits the return trip leasing of trucks which carry farm products to market and exempts these return trips with cargo from ICC regulations, and is known as the "Trip-Leasing" Bill.

PL 848 authorizes the first atom powered merchant ship to be built by the Maritime Administration and Atomic Energy Commission at an estimated cost of \$40 million.

PL 714 prohibits ships rebuilt outside of the United States from operating in coastal trade.

Both houses of Congress adopted resolution putting Congress on Record as opposing United Nations seating of Communist China.

S. 4146 to give the Atomic Energy Commission \$400 million to build pilot atomic power reactors was approved 49-40 by the Senate on a party line vote with the Democrats for and Republicans against, but this Bill was defeated in the House 203-191.

PL 485 authorizes development of the Upper Colorado River Basin in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, at an estimated cost of \$1.6 billion with \$900 million for irrigation, \$600 million for power.

PL 1016 provides a program of flood damage insurance with the new Flood Insurance Administration authorizing issuance of up to \$5 billion in insurance at 60 percent of the cost. After three years the States will be expected to share equally with the Federal government the difference between premium charges and insured damage cost.

PL 660 increases by \$1 million annually for Federal water pollution research grants to States and expands the control program by adding \$50 million a year for five years. The total amount any municipality can receive is one-third of the total cost or \$250,000 whichever is greater.

PL 1026 permits franchised automobile dealers to sue manufacturers on charges of bad faith in matters relating to the exercise of their franchises.

The House killed the controversial aid to school construction bill by 224-194 vote after having adopted an anti-segregation amendment by a 225-192 vote.

PL 949 authorizes \$378 million for a two-year extension of Federal aid to school districts overburdened by Federal activities. This money can be used both for school construction and school operation.

PL 511 regulates bank holding companies. They must give up non-banking subsidiaries; obtain Federal Reserve Board approval to acquire more banks and obtain approving state legislation to acquire banks across state lines.

PL 911 is an omnibus law designed to reduce the shortage of nurses and health facilities and to improve mental health care.

Federal grants are authorized for training of both registered and practical nurses and of public health technicians. This Bill also extends

for two years from June 30, 1957 the Hill-Burton Act which authorizes up to \$210 million a year for hospital construction.

PL 835 authorizes \$90 million over three years for the construction of research facilities and hospitals and universities.

PL 937 extends the Vocational Rehabilitation Act to June 30, 1957.

The Democratic convention now underway in Chicago should last about five days. Since 1832 the conventions have lasted from two to sixteen days. The Democrats have nominated 17 of their 31 candidates starting with Andrew Jackson on the first ballot. The others anywhere from two to 103 ballots. In 1923 John W. Davis was nominated on the 103rd ballot. There were 86 roll calls before Woodrow Wilson got the nomination in 1912, and 44 before James M. Cox made it in 1920.

August 16, 1956

The Democratic platform contains eleven planks. The last plank concerns Civil Rights and at 1:30 this morning I was still listening to the radio. The platform was finally adopted as presented. Just a few minutes ago, Senator John Kennedy, a young

Democratic Senator from Massachusetts placed the name of Adlai Stevenson for President. It now looks like Stevenson will be nominated on the first ballot. In 1940 I was a delegate to the National Convention from this District and at that time knew nothing whatsoever about the procedure concerning nominating conventions. Now I know a great many people who are attending the convention and especially those people in charge. If it had been possible for me to attend this year, I could have enjoyed myself tremendously.

Drew Pearson, one of the most discussed syndicated columnists of the present time, in his column today said that one of the Kentucky delegates attending the convention who was disgruntled with Chandler made the statement: "In order to call Chandler Kentucky's favorite son, you must finish the sentence."

August 29, 1956

Adlai E. Stevenson was nominated for President at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago on the first ballot. This action came as somewhat of a surprise to a great many politicians in this country because for a number of months it appeared that a deadlock would develop which might force

a dark horse into the picture.

Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee was nominated for Vice-President. This nomination came on the second ballot and after the Tennessee delegation on both roll calls had cast the vote against Kefauver. Governor Frank Clement of Tennessee and Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee did everything within their power to prevent the nomination of Senator Kefauver. Senator John Kennedy of Massachusetts had 640 votes on the second ballot with 686½ required. Senator Kefauver only had 530 votes on this particular ballot after leading on the first ballot. State after State began changing at the end of the roll call on the second ballot and Kefauver received 686½ votes within the matter of a few seconds and ended up with nearly 750 votes. At this point his nomination was declared unanimous.

My mother-in-law, Mrs. F. D. Reardon, passed away early Sunday morning, August 19, 1956. After many days of extreme excruciating pain which was prevented as much as possible by medicine she died. Mrs. Reardon was one of the finest women that I have ever had the pleasure of knowing and was one of the most competent business women and a very brilliant woman.

On Wednesday night August 23 I spoke before the annual meeting of the Southern Kentucky Milk Producers Association, using as my subject the "Present Agricultural Problem." Some 350 men and women were present and they were very kind to me.

September 7, 1956

Integration has stirred up considerable trouble at Sturgis in Union County. Union County is in my Congressional District and for the past two days the Kentucky National Guard has maintained order at the Sturgis High School thereby permitting nine colored students to come and go peacefully.

The Republican organization in Kentucky is really spending the money. With two U.S. Senate seats up for decision it is my opinion that a million dollars will be dumped into Kentucky in November. Large advertising firms and promotion companies have been employed from Wisconsin and other States to move into Kentucky ascertaining the counties and districts to be concentrated upon.

Senator Earle C. Clements comes into the Second District tomorrow and according to prior commitments the Democratic Members of the House will be

with the candidates for Senate in each District. Tomorrow we will be in Simpson and Warren Counties; Thursday in Hopkins and Webster Counties; Friday in Henderson and McLean Counties; Saturday in Daviees and Hancock Counties.

The National Guard has been sent into Sturgis, Kentucky to prevent integration disorder.

Governor Edmund S. Muskie, the first Democrat to hold the Governorship of Maine in twenty years was re-elected. This came as quite a shock to the Republican Party because the old maxim of "How goes Maine so goes the rest of the Nation" is still a cherished slogan of the Republican Party.

The Rotary Club, the Lions Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Mayor of the City of Scottsville, Business and Professional Women's Club, have all endorsed the Barren River Reservoir Project, and it may be that same is now in a position to move. The Citizens Times of Scottsville has finally editorially endorsed this project.

National Guard also called out in Tennessee and just about the same trouble now existing in Mansfield, Texas.



On Wednesday of this week I attended a meeting of the Pond River Development Association in Madisonville, Kentucky and made a speech concerning our River and Harbor Development Program for this Congressional District.

The opening of the Democratic Campaign here in Kentucky will be held at Shelbyville, Kentucky on September 18.

President Eisenhower continues to have his picture made with the Republican candidates for Congress and according to news release a civilian professor of government at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, one of those meeting with the President for the purpose of receiving a political pat, and upon being informed that this particular man whose name is William B. Prendergast, was a professor, the President was quoted as saying "We need a professor in Congress to teach these Congressman something." This, of course, will stir up the usual amount of controversy.

September 11, 1956

A record crowd was on hand Sunday in the new State Fair Stadium at Louisville to welcome big time professional football but not Governor A. B.

Chandler. The 21,876 enjoyed the game between the Philadelphia Eagles and the Baltimore Colts with the score being 19 to 14 in favor of the Eagles. Governor Chandler spoke between the halves and booing from the crowd continued for several minutes, completely drowning out his words. This was a national radio hook-up and was very unfortunate.