

Solons Answer Various To Congress TV Question

By ARTHUR EDSON

WASHINGTON (AP) — Three congressmen have been warmly debating the question: "Should Congress be put on television?" Typically, they have come up with three answers: Yes. No. Yes-and-no.

The debate, prepared for a magazine put out by the Academy of Radio and Television Arts and Sciences, appears in the "Congressional Record."

You, too, may have wondered why it's not possible to see Congress in action (I use the word loosely), so let's have a look at the arguments:

Yes, emphatically, says Rep. Javits (R-N.Y.). His view: "We are arbitrarily limiting the scope of our democracy by not televising and broadcasting congressional sessions."

Even Javits won't go whole hog. He would limit television to major debate. This, he said, would bring enough additional information to the people to make for better government.

No, emphatically, says Senator Gillette (D-Iowa).

"Congress is a deliberative and

legislative body," Gillette said. "It is not a theater, a music hall or a sports arena."

He thinks television would be a distraction, and that Congress should stick to deliberating and legislating.

Yes, and no, says Senator Wiley (R-Wis.).

Wiley gets off to this glorious start: "Congress, at least in some respects, provides perfect material for TV."

"The Senate and House have more drama than the most superb television playhouse, more newsworthiness than the most up-to-the-minute video television news reel, occasional humor to provide light-minded onlookers, variety of subject matter to outmatch the finest variety show."

I don't believe this is quite the way I would describe Congress. And after getting his breath back, Wiley seems to shy away from it, too.

Would Allow Some Chosen He would like to see joint sessions of Congress televised, as they are now, and important hearings, as they sometimes are now.

But Wiley foresees numerous difficulties in televising actual House and Senate debates. He faces one problem with admirable frankness.

"In the Senate," he said, "it would be difficult, if not impossible, to force a limitation on debate and thus prevent 'hogging of the TV camera.'"

And indeed it would. Since I don't own a television set, I can be neutral on this.

Some of the finest, most exciting moments I ever have had have come while watching Congress. But the average, routine session offers few lures for the television watcher wanting a quick thrill.

A look at an average Senate day might be helpful.

On this average day the main items were (A) the introduction of a universal military training bill, and (B) a discussion of a proposal for home rule for the voteless citizens of Washington.

As usual, the senators wandered all over the conventional lot.

The talk covered everything from the development of Kentucky's Big Sandy River "including the levies and tug fork thereof," to the Japanese government, to a reciprocal trade, to an investigation of the State Department, to a query from "Walter O. Thompson of Hatton, N.D."

Thompson asked Senator Langer (R-ND): How can a farmer sell eggs for 25 cents a dozen when laying mash costs \$4.39?

The talk went on and on, for four hours and 46 minutes.

By Wiley's standards, the Senate came in with only a 50-50 rating this day. The session certainly provided some news-worthiness, and heaven knows there was a variety of subject matter. But no superb drama, no occasional humor to furnish splendid refreshment for us light-minded onlookers.

See what I mean? Am I too late for Kukla, Fran and Ollie?

Myrtle Creek Finance Company Incorporates

Articles of incorporation for the Myrtle Creek Finance Company, Myrtle Creek were filed at Salem Tuesday. The firm was incorporated for \$10,000 by John H. Markham Jr., Paul Frentress and Marion Kusler.

Farm Programs Will Cost More, Truman Figures

By OVID A. MARTIN

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Truman estimated Monday federal farm programs will cost seven per cent more next year because of a government need to encourage greater crop and livestock output.

His budget message to Congress outlined expenditures of slightly more than \$1 1/2 billion for the fiscal year beginning next July 1. This compares with an expected outlay of \$1,400,000,000 for the current year, \$650,000,000 last year and record of \$2,800,000,000 year before last.

A major portion of the cost, he said, would be in the form of price supports, soil conservation payments, and wheat export subsidies.

Because of a shortage of critical materials, Mr. Truman recommended a smaller appropriation for electrification. He also forecast a reduced demand for

loans financing farm purchases. The chief executive said the government's price support program is being used to encourage farm production by keeping support prices on cotton, corn, wheat, soybeans, milk, wool and several other commodities at maximum levels of 90 percent of parity.

(Parity is a standard for measuring farm prices, declared by law to be equally fair in relation to prices farmers pay for goods they use.)

The government's farm production goal for fiscal 1953 calls for a six per cent increase in output over last year's record and 50 per cent above the 1935-39 average. Some of this increased production would move into the department's hands as a reserve for possible future emergencies.

Mr. Truman said the 90 per cent parity support level "should help to give farmers the economic in-

centive necessary to maintain high production."

U. S. Prestige In Orient Low, Cong. Mack Finds

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Rep. Mack (D-Ill.), who flew in Monday from Honolulu on the homeward leg of his globe-girdling flight in a small, single-engine plane, says American prestige in the Orient is low.

Mack began the flight as a good will tour last Oct. 7.

He said that he found American prestige highest in Turkey and lowest in the Orient, "although generally people all over the world are beginning to appreciate our efforts."

For more than 300 years European nations fought Arctic wars over the wealth of Spitzbergen, jagged islands off Norway's coast.

Decreased Fund For National Parks Requested

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Truman Monday asked Congress to provide \$32,289,383 for the National Parks for the year starting July 1—a cut of about 5 1/2 million below the amount appropriated last year.

The decrease was asked despite estimates by the National Park Service that more visitors will tour the parks this year.

Mr. Truman asked in his budget message for \$14,310,000 for construction work by the Park Service. This compares with \$20,849,000 made available for the current fiscal year ending June 30.

The construction includes roads, trails, parkways, buildings and other physical facilities. The President asked for \$38,786,000 for management and protection

Japanese Girls Return To Japan To Marry

TOKYO — Nine Japanese girls from 17 to 27 years old arrived Tuesday from Santos, Brazil, with matrimony in mind. "We have come to Japan to find husbands," they told reporters for Yomiuri. The Japanese boys in Brazil are "unintelligent, rude and lack Japanese spirit," they said. Each girl spent about the equal of \$555 on passage from Brazil—almost twice the yearly wage of an average Japanese working man.

Highway Congestion Solution Suggested

NEW YORK (AP) — In horse and buggy days New Yorkers traveled 11.5 miles an hour. In their modern autos they go only six miles.

The cause is congestion, E. E. Keans, of Erie, Pa., told the American Institute of Electrical Engineers Tuesday.

As one remedy he proposed putting high speed electric trains in the center malls of fast highways. The malls are the separators of dual highways.

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