



By Harris Ellsworth, M. C.

Hearings are now being conducted by both the house and senate public works committees on the CVA (Columbia Valley Authority) bills. There are several bills introduced by different representatives and senators, but they are identical. The bills were not written "on the hill," as congress is generally referred to here in Washington, but were written down town. Just who actually authors this type of legislation has not been stated but it is assumed that the writing was done by some bright young men in the department of the interior.

Numerous witnesses from the Pacific Northwest states which are concerned with CVA legislation are here to present their testimony to the committees. I know that Governor McKay, Oregon Senate President Wm. Walsh, and Speaker of the house Frank Van Dyke, are here. They will speak in opposition to the bills. I saw Dr. Paul Raver, Bonneville administrator, in the house restaurant. He told me he was appearing in favor of CVA. I believe there are other proponents of the legislation here but thus far I have not seen them.

Speaking of visitors to Washington reminds me to say that the capitol has been enjoying an unusually large number of visitors from distant states during the past two weeks. I believe newspapers have carried a story to the effect that the deluge of visitors has become a hardship on the members of congress. Perhaps it has been a hardship for some—I don't know—but so far as I am concerned I was mighty glad to see the folks who stopped off here on their way to or from the various conventions. There were not many and it was very pleasant to see them and have a visit. I want everyone in my congressional district who makes a trip to Washington, D. C., to be sure to look me up. I am not hard to find, and can always be located through my office, 1631 New House Office building.

One of the most controversial and hotly debated issues of this session of congress is the Truman socialized housing bill. I have discussed this bill at some length in previous letters; however, I neglected to mention something that appears to be uppermost in the president's mind though it is unimportant to me—and to most members of congress. I refer to the so-called "Real Estate lobby." The president wrote a letter to congress (to Speaker Rayburn) decrying the activities of that "awful" lobby. The cold truth about it is that while there may be some lobbyists around to represent real estate dealers, I have never seen one. Before starting to write this letter I inquired of several members in the cloak room as to whether or not they had seen any real estate lobbyists. None had. But there is another side to this subject. Organized real estate lobbying against the bill was not noticeable—but the pressure group lobbying FOR the bill have been extremely heavy. Even the great American Legion organization has sent several communications to members urging the passage of the Bill.

The last of such communications received the morning debate on the bill began was the news release from American Legion headquarters here, the first paragraph of which states: "The American Legion threw its full weight behind the public housing bill today as the house of representatives prepared to debate the measure."

This statement was especially interesting first because the bill, if finally approved, will not particularly benefit veterans—nevertheless they will have the privilege of paying the cost over the next 40 years; and secondly the mail I have received from people in all walks of life whom I know to be veterans proves to me that the membership of the American Legion is not by any means solidly in favor of the housing bill.

A recent report of the joint committee on reduction of non-essential federal expenditures, headed by Sen. Harry Byrd of Virginia, states that the number of civilian employees in the executive branch of the federal government in April increased at the rate of 350 per day! This means that the annual cost of our federal government increased during that month at the rate of more than a million dollars a

day. How can we avert financial disaster in this country if such reckless spending continues?

**LOCAL NEWS**

Among Gold Beach residents who visited the Lily Blossom Time parade, Monday, were R. G. Sabin, county sheriff, and R. M. Knox, county agent, who served as one of the float judges.

Mr. and Mrs. Axel Lund, and party, of Crescent City, were Lily Blossom Time visitors. Mr. Lund is owner of the West Coast Veneer Company, and is well known in this area. The group enjoyed a beach picnic later.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Wagy of Kansas City and son-in-law and

daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Defenbaugh of Kennewick, Wash., were Lily Blossom Time visitors, and at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Gould, whom they knew at Adian, Mo., years ago. The Wagys said the parade was worth the trip west to see.

Dr. and Mrs. George A. Rogers and Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Rogers of Los Angeles were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Young. Mrs. Frank Rogers Jr. a niece of Mrs. Young, was the former Frances Brown and lived in this area a few years ago. They came especially to see the Lily parade.

Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Kivett of Newberg, Ore., parents of Mrs. Lynn Hampton, were week-end

visitors at the Hampton home. They came especially to see the Lily parade.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Yokum came home from Grants Pass Friday where they had spent the past ten days, while their son-in-law and daughter were vacationing at the Yokum home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Patterson are now settled in their new home which they recently acquired from August Johnson, who now has the home and acreage formerly owned by the Pattersons.

Rev. and Mrs. Leo VanDolso left Tuesday for Gladstone, Ore., to attend the annual camp meeting of the Seventh-Day Adventist church. They will be gone a week, he told the Pilot.

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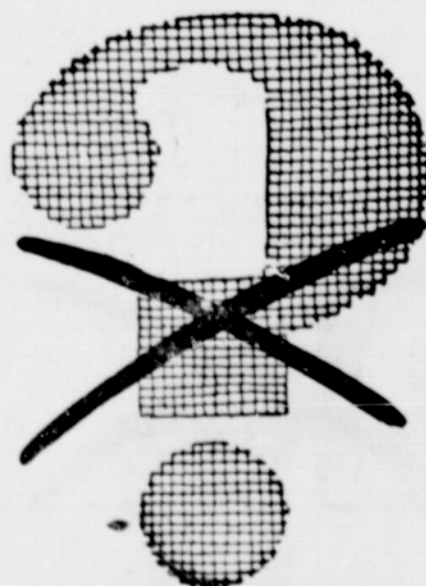
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