

WASHINGTON WEEK

By Harris Ellsworth, M. C.

When the president sent his fantastic eighty-five billion dollar budget to Congress he "dared" congress to cut it, saying his figures represented the minimum spending requirements of the government. The house of representatives accepted that challenge with vigor. Even the members of the majority—the administration side of the house—are now voting economy.

Result is to date we have passed six of the twelve major appropriations bills and have slashed almost two billions from the totals requested. The really big bills are still to come—military requirements and foreign aid program. These two represent about 75 per cent of the total budget. I am certain that the "water" and waste will be shaken out of those bills also.

It is too soon to predict just how much will be knocked out of the president's demand, but a nice round ten billions seems possible.

When dealing with the subject of government finances it is necessary to toss the word 'billion' around rather casually. Just exactly how much is a billion dollars—in terms we might understand, that is? I am indebted to my friend Congressman Hubert Scudder of California for providing the following illustration: If a corporation began business in the year One A. D. with a billion dollars in capital, and lost \$1,000 every day—by 1952 that company would still have enough capital from the original billion to continue in business until the year 2929—still losing a \$1,000 every day.

To the above it is pertinent to add, I think, that as of March 1, 1952, the national debt (federal) was \$260,398,871,398.

Representative Paul Shafer of Michigan, a member of the house

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Evenings by Appointment

Vote Carries For Purchase Of Land To Expand School

At the election authorizing the purchase of certain tracts of land

committee on armed services, recently completed an analysis of the vote in the house which sent the so-called universal military training bill back to the committee for further study. The Shafer data reveals that of the 398 members who answered the roll call on the motion to recommit (carried 236 to 162), 224 are war veterans and members of the leading service organizations.

The 224 veterans voted 132 to 92 in favor of recommitting the UMT bill. Included in the group of war veterans voting for recommitment were several former district and state Legion commanders and two former national commanders of the VFW.

The major factor in this majority veteran vote for recommitment was the realization that the UMS bill before the house was actually a man-power mobilization bill and a far cry from the original Universal Military Training bill long sponsored by the American Legion and other veteran organizations.

adjacent to the present school a vote of 131 for to 8 against was registered last Friday evening.

Only 140 votes were cast, with one being thrown out by spoilage. This vote authorized the district to take the back tax and serial levy moneys now on hand to purchase three parcels of land aggregating about 6 acres for any future expansion of the school. The land lies next to the tennis court, on Pioneer Road to Easy Street, and along Easy street to a point almost opposite the present school. Legal work is now being worked out for transfer of the property.

Contrary to belief among many, this purchase adds nothing to the district debt. The money is on hand, and if not used by the district, would have gone into the county fund, and forever lost to the district from which it was raised.

Weather Report

For the week ending on Sunday:

	Max.	Min.	Rain
March 31	54	40	.07
April 1	53	37	.03
April 2	55	43	.23
April 3	57	40
April 4	57	44
April 5	73	43
April 6	53	49	.01
Rainfall for week34



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