

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sweeps Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Spend and Spend—the 1951 Budget

The federal budget is so ponderous a document that it can be reported only in summary. But the impact of government financing is so great that businessmen need to know what the budget proposes in the way of taxes and spending.

The first point with reference to President Truman's budget for 1951 is its admission of a deficit of \$5,133,000,000, down about \$400,000,000 from the estimate for 1950. The second point is that the spending proposed is down \$858,000,000 from 1950. The great slash is in European aid, over \$1,250,000,000, although military aid under the Atlantic treaty is increased by \$290,000,000.

The real "glutton at the feast" is national defense, which gets a share of \$13,545,000,000 out of the big pie of \$42,439,000,000, up nearly \$400,000,000 from 1950. Rocket planes, B-36s, a military establishment of nearly two million men and women cost a lot of money in the aggregate.

New spending is proposed in \$300,000,000 for education, but reductions of \$800,000,000 in veterans aid and of \$600,000,000 in support of farm prices are recommended. The president wants to levy three billion more in payroll taxes to finance expanded social security and start socialized medicine.

Again western public works fare well in the president's budget. A total of \$204,000,000 for reclamation and power projects is recommended. This includes \$20,000,000 for the Detroit dam and \$18,000,000 for the Lookout Point dam in the Willamette valley project; \$17,500,000 for the Chief Joseph dam on the Columbia and \$53,355,000 for the Columbia basin irrigation project. This flow of money to the northwest will serve as a support for its economy.

Congress will proceed now with committee hearings on budget items calling for appropriation. Some may be disapproved, others may be scaled down; but in the end the total will be probably fully as large as the president asks for. In election year congressmen are not likely to forget the interests of their "destricts." What we may expect is a reduction in excise taxes, but with no compensating new tax.

Come Into the Kitchen

There's more change in the modern kitchen than in any other room in the house, Mrs. Genevieve Smith said in her syndicated column "More for Your Money" in The Statesman the other day. It's true. The kitchen is getting a good share of the "back to the good old days" trend in domestic life. It's part of the reaction against the gone-and-good-riddance philosophy that had homes running as impersonally and efficiently as assembly lines.

Remember the kitchen in the home of your youth? Maybe it wasn't exactly sterile and it certainly wasn't very labor-saving — what with hand-pumped water, wood-burning range and an icebox that made more puddles on the floor than Old Dog Tray who slept in the woodbox. But it was warm and informal — the heart of the household. Mother escorted courtesy callers into the "front room" but to friends she said, "Come on into the kitchen and have a dish of tea."

The spider, if you'll recall, said to the fly, "Come into my parlor (and I shall eat you up)." The parlor, often as not, was a front. The kitchen was the real center of the home and quite expressive of the way the family lived. Children weren't shunted off to a playroom;

they played in the kitchen where they could be happily underfoot. And they helped with the dinner and the dishes. Father wasn't isolated in a den, like an old bear; he read the papers by the kitchen table and participated in the lively conversation about school or the neighbors.

For a while this was looked upon as old-fashioned. So homes were divided into compartments where individuals and activities were filed away in the proper location. The kitchen was the food preparation factory and no more. A chill, white, sacrosanct closet, it didn't invite enjoyment.

Today things are changing, indeed. Homes are more open; there aren't so many walls and doors or rooms for specific purposes. The kitchen, dining and living rooms are combined into a "living area" where the whole family congregates. Mrs. Smith mentions a study or play table, sewing table for Mom or hobby table for Dad all in or near the kitchen.

Today housewives can be as sanitary and efficient as all the gadgets and devices they've got. But they can be homey, too. Once more pots and pans hang on the walls, plants bloom on window sills and woodwork is natural or multicolored instead of hospital-white. It all makes for more informal living, for a friendlier atmosphere.

Come on into the kitchen, grab a dish towel and stay awhile!

Brighter Prospects for Capitol Plan

The prospect for adoption of a long-range capitol plan improved greatly Monday. First, Robert Coates, who holds a permit for constructing an apartment house in the extended capitol area, has consented to locate the building elsewhere providing he is saved from loss. He shows a very cooperative attitude because he was not aware of the capitol extension plan.

Second, the city council gave first reading to an ordinance extending the capitol zone as recommended by the city zoning commission. Now if these prospects mature, the capitol plan is saved for ultimate action by the legislature. Salem, however, must exert itself to materialize these prospects as part of its obligation to the state.

Deficit Worries at Olympia

The treasury reservoir at Olympia is running dry, simply because the outlet pipe is bigger than the intake. In 1948 the voters took on a greatly expanded old age pension program without providing means for financing it. The legislature failed to do anything — in fact it reduced income by diverting cigarette tax receipts to service the new veterans' bonds. Washington residents depending on a state warrant for living may soon face the old question: "What you gonna do for water when the well runs dry?" Or that other vocal favorite: "What you gonna do when the rent comes around? . . . How you gonna pay?"

Unlike the federal government state governments can't print currency and their borrowing authority is limited under the constitution. Looks as though Gov. Langlie would have to call a special session of the legislature.

The cold war, of major importance at the present is that raging on the weather front. Old man winter is getting in his licks, with snow, wind, rain, ice. Just so he doesn't prolong his visit as he did in 1949.

Acheson Scores Win over Johnson

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Thus far, the Formosa mess has cast far more light on the future of the Truman administration than on the future of Asia. Indeed, the general turmoil has produced only one seriously significant result to date. Secretary of State Dean G. Acheson has scored a rather spectacular triumph over Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson.

It is certainly time for some one to come out with the plain truth, that Secretary Johnson has been one of the chief inspirers of the campaign against the state department's Formosa policy. The other, of course, has been General of the Army Douglas MacArthur.

For a very long time, Secretary Johnson has been indicating dissatisfaction with the state department's passive response to the communist victories in Asia. For an even longer time General MacArthur has been making the same point to all his visitors, with special emphasis on the importance of holding Formosa. Rather recently, the joint chiefs of staff came to agree with MacArthur, that some attempt should be made to keep Formosa out of communist hands. It is a pretty open secret that Johnson then caused this J.C.S. decision to be transmitted to the public.

There is even some indication that MacArthur and Johnson have been concerting the effort to make Formosa a hot public issue. The existence of a state

department paper warning foreign service officers abroad that Formosa might soon be lost, was recently reported, from Tokyo. Yet there was no reason why this document should have reached Tokyo for some weeks, if at all. The natural inference is that some one in Washington took special steps to transmit the document to General MacArthur's headquarters. And the further inference is that this may probably have been done by the chief MacArthur sympathizer here, Secretary Johnson.

In such ways, and by such devices, the Formosa issue has been heated up in the public mind. In the early stages of this process, Secretary Johnson also began to press for a national security council meeting, at which a clear American policy for Asia, including Formosa, would at last be outlined. At this meeting Johnson let it be known, that he would make a last-ditch fight for an aggressive program.

When the security council meeting was scheduled, it almost appeared as though Johnson's long struggle to take a hand in foreign policy-making might finally be crowned with success. Then the defense secretary learned that the president had already made up his mind. Perhaps he also heard that Truman had been informed of the real origins of the Formosa row, and was irritated thereby.

At any rate, to the complete astonishment of his former confidants, Secretary Johnson did not go to the security council meeting. He vanished into Florida, leaving even his personal staff ignorant of his whereabouts. The field was thus left to Secretary Acheson, who quickly secured the president's complete acceptance of his more carefully calculated policy.

There may be denials of all this bureaucratic infighting. The suave denial of known facts is an old official custom, rivaling infighting itself in hoary antiquity. What has happened is

mainly worth reporting because of the contrast in character between the contestants.

Although he has often shown courage in dealing with the armed services, Secretary Johnson is a pretty adequate symbol of everything that is distressing about the Truman administration. Although he has sometimes been indecisive, particularly about Far Eastern matters, Secretary Acheson is an excellent symbol of the Truman administration's good side. And although he breathes no fire and flame, Acheson has now shown that he will fight hard for principle and will not run away.

In the choice between Acheson and Johnson, President Truman has certainly been influenced by personal considerations. As Under Secretary of State, Acheson insisted upon working closely with the freshman president, at a time when his chief, James J. Byrnes, wished to run the state department without White House supervision. Truman and Acheson are now warmly attached to each other.

On the other hand, the president's disillusionment with Secretary Johnson seems to have begun shortly after Johnson went to the defense government. Washington now rings with stories of which a high proportion are authentic, of Acheson over Johnson. Every sign suggests that this choice is permanent, and that Acheson's views will continue to prevail in policy disputes of the future. And this is bound to have the most far-reaching effects, ranging from Asiatic policy to the decision about building a hydrogen bomb.

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TWO BILLS AGAIN!



Henry Asks Why Triple Our Income?

By Henry McLemore
DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., Jan. 8.—With as tiny a mind as I have, one would be justified in believing that I could make it up in a flash, a jiffy, in the twinkling of a star.

But that isn't the truth. It takes me a long time. Sometimes I stand before an escalator the better part of an hour before choosing to speak my mind. What I consider the right step to hop on, and it is not unusual for me to take hours to decide to get out of bed. So it comes as no surprise to myself to find that only today am I prepared to speak my mind on President Truman's State of the Union message, delivered almost a week ago.

Frankly, many parts of it sent five-alarm shivers up and down what serves me for a spine, but none more than the section in which he spoke of the giant strides being made by our national production. Mr. Truman indicated that by the year 2000 A. D. (what does A. D. stand for? After Democrats?) our production would be four times as much, or a cool trillion dollars.

This would mean, he said — and here the shivers of alarm held a barn dance on my backbone — that everyone would have about three times as much money as he has today.

Heaven forbid! Let me repeat — heaven forbid! I won't be here to have three times as much myself, but I have enough feeling for my fellow man to sympathize with those who will be.

Just think of it, three times as much of the things we have today. There will be three juke boxes grinding out the 2000 A. D. version of "Mule Train" instead of just one.

Men will have to worry three times as much about their income taxes.

Instead of having to worry

about one lost collar button a man will have to look for three lost ones, and under three chests of drawers, not one.

There will be three times as many speed cops to blow their sirens and thumb a driver to the side of the road, and each cop'll hand out three tickets.

Those movie-goers of 2000 A. D. won't be able to enjoy the gentle horror of having to sit through only a double-feature — they'll see six, five of which are sure to be Grade J hand-me-downs from Hollywood's bargain basements and fire sales.

At the race track a fellow will have to pick three winners to gain admittance to the pay-off wicket.

He'll have to eat nine meals, not three, and as a result the end of this century is likely to see everyone looking like William Howard Taft at his Taffiest.

Trains will jerk three times as much when they start as they do now, and there'll be three times as many petty politicians preying on the people.

Here, let's stop this list lest we break into tears for the trillion-dollar babies.

(Distributed by McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I was talking to Mr. Allen and his wife."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "patronize"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Impertinent, impeccable, implacable, immaterial.
4. What does the word "vulnerable" (adjective) mean?
5. What is a word beginning with "in" that means "destitute of life"?

ANSWERS

1. Say, "I was talking with Mr. and Mrs. Allen." 2. Pronounce the "a" as in pay, not as in pat. 3. Impertinent. 4. Useful in healing wounds. "We applied to the wound such vulnerable remedies as were possible."

Smith to Give Atlantic Union Talk Tonight

Sponsors of Atlantic Union in the Marion county area will present a public address by Dr. Warren D. Smith of the University of Oregon tonight at 8 o'clock in Waller hall.

Smith, member of the national advisory board for Atlantic Union, will outline the movement for a U.S. proposal for a conference of western democracies to draft a plan for federal union. The speaker is a professor of geology. Dr. Smith also will appear before the Salem Kiwanis club this noon. In another talk on Atlantic Union tonight, John D. Hakanson of the local committee, will address the Business and Professional Women's club.

By Lichty

GRIN AND BEAR IT



"Where do I stand to get pushed to the linens department . . .?"

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1.)

premiums would not be met. Also complicating is the steel formula of \$100 pensions in which the company pays just the difference between the \$100 and the amount paid by government social security. The company's share would be a variable.

Thus it is clear that there are a great many problems in assuring pensions on an industry-wide basis, — to say nothing of the much greater problem of maintaining the purchasing power of the dollar.

The better solution may be to increase the government annuity and thus relieve the employer of direct charge for pensions. But the pension system is already well established in many corporations and the power of unions to force supplements to government social security is so great that a single system of government pensions isn't in sight.

Pensions are not on the way, they are here. John L. Lewis broke trail for his mine workers, but he didn't originate the pension systems. Many big companies have had retirement systems for years and congress some years ago passed a law imposing pension systems on railroads. With

companies voting big retirement allowances to executives, as they have been busy doing in recent years, not much room for arguing against worker pensions remained.

The big job now is to see how pensions can apply to small concerns and those under individual ownership; and then to see how non-industrial workers are to be covered. When all are sure of being under the tent at age 65, let us pray that then no leaks in the cover will appear. Pensions without purchasing power are not "security."

MRS. STRACHAN ILL

NORTH HOWELL — Mrs. Ida Strachan of Moscow, Idaho, who is a guest at the home of her son, Wayne Strachan, was taken to the Silverton hospital last week to receive treatment for a leg infection.

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