

Money Bills Slip Through House Quickly

WASHINGTON, June 20—(AP)—Eleven veterans' bills involving continuing annual costs of more than \$335,000,000 were passed through the house today without recorded votes and with little vocal opposition.

The measures provided also for big one-time expenditures topped by \$335,000,000 for hospitals.

They dealt with a wide range of subjects—construction of new hospitals, increases in pensions and disability payments, insurance, and free automobiles.

None of the bills has passed the senate and, even if they should, some of them may be vetoed because of known administration opposition.

The bill that caused the most controversy was one directing the veterans' administration to build 24 new hospitals and enlarge 14 others to provide 16,000 additional beds. One would be at Klamath Falls, Ore.

The 16,000-bed program was approved several years ago and funds authorized, but President Truman cancelled it.

The bill's opponents said existing hospitals have space for veterans and medical personnel to man those already built is not available.

The bill provides no funds. It simply adds—on paper—16,000 beds.

Contracts for Salem Street Jobs Approved

Contracts for improvement on four Salem area streets were approved for Warren Northwest, Inc., by Marion county court Wednesday.

Work on the streets are to be completed by September 1, according to the contracts.

Streets on which asphaltic concrete pavements will be laid, and the cost of each project, include East Frederick street, \$2,110; Fairhaven avenue, \$6,685 and Rickman road, \$5,540.

Glenwood avenue will be graded and gravelled at an estimated cost of \$9,806. Property owners adjacent to the streets will bear the cost of the work.

Meanwhile the court also was informed that opposition to proposed improvements on Chester street in Silverton was shaping up. Plans, on which the county authorized calling for bids, call for asphaltic concrete pavement on Chester street at a cost of about \$7,971.

Rex Albright, Silverton attorney, wrote the court Wednesday that the project would be a burden to property owners along the street and that the property is not worth the assessment for improvement.

Bids are to be opened July 6 and 11, by that time, more than 50 per cent of the property owners along the street protest the project will be dropped, said the court.

Senate Aims At Government Press Agents

WASHINGTON, June 20—(AP)—The senate swung at government press agents today and by a 63 to 10 vote ordered a cutback of 25 per cent in funds given them in 26 government agencies.

Senator Byrd (D-Va.) sponsored the amendment to the \$6,210,000,000 bill providing operating funds for so-called independent offices and agencies for the fiscal year starting July 1.

The senate previously had ordered a 10 per cent reduction in funds for these agencies. But Byrd got that increased to a 25 per cent cut in funds spent for "public relations and propaganda purposes."

Amputee Cop Makes Good

SAN PEDRO, Calif.—(AP)—A tall, good-looking police officer went on duty at the night watch desk recently after 13 months off the job. For Glenn E. Diess, 28, a husband and father of two children, it was a moment of triumph. Diess has only one leg.

Just 13 months ago, preparing to leave for the station, he kissed his wife goodbye and began to strap on his .38 revolver. The gun suddenly discharged. The bullet plowed through his right leg. For four days he lingered near death in a hospital. Later they amputated his right leg. He was in a wheel chair for months, then he was fitted with an artificial leg. At headquarters they shook their heads when he asked for his old job, but Diess kept returning. Finally they gave in and accepted him for desk duty, figuring a man of such courage ought to be pretty handy after all.

Crocodiles Get Foster Family

MELBOURNE—(AP)—Two young Ballarat sportsmen are about to become "foster-fathers" to 30 man-eating crocodiles.

Bill Rowe and John Hutchinson brought the crocodile eggs from Queensland. Four have already hatched, others are cracking.

Hutchinson said they would take care of the young crocodiles in a special pool, with infra-red heating, keep them a few months, then give them to zoos.

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