

President Inks Bill to Boost Home Building

Law Falls Short
Of Ike's Hopes

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower signed with evident satisfaction Monday a compromise housing bill which was high on his "must" list but markedly below his recommendations for further low-rent public housing.

He invited a large group of legislators and federal housing officials to watch the signing in his office, including Norman P. Mason, scheduled to take the oath as commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) after the Housing Act of 1954 becomes law. Mason has been acting commissioner.

PASSED BY BIG MARGIN

The Senate completed congressional action on the bill last Wednesday night with a 59-21 roll call vote. The House had passed it 358-30 July 20.

The measure generally is designed to make it easier to buy homes and to modernize them. Sen. Capehart (R-Ind.), Banking Committee chairman who handled the legislation in the Senate, estimates it should boost home building by 10 to 20 per cent.

Ronald J. Chinnock, president of the National Assn. of Real Estate Boards, said in a prepared statement the bill "will put home ownership within reach of many thousands of families that have not been able to own their homes in the past."

PUBLIC HOUSING

The one section of the measure differing notably from Eisenhower's request is the provision for 35,000 public housing units this fiscal year — provided this type of building is devoted only to families actually displaced by federal slum clearance work.

The President had asked authority for 140,000 units over the next four years, without this restriction. The House originally voted for no public housing at all, then compromised on the restricted 35,000-unit figure at Senate and administration urging.

The new legislation also includes these changes, effective at once:

- Liberalizes down payment and repayment period requirements on homes bought with FHA-insured mortgages. For example, a house with an FHA-appraised value of \$12,000 could have its down payment lowered from the present \$2,400 to \$1,200 if new and \$1,650 if old.

- Provides safeguards designed to prevent extra-large "windfall" profits by builders of government-backed apartment projects.

- Contains a clause requiring lenders in the government-backed home repair loan program to take part of the risk on each loan made.

- Permits the buyer of a government-insured home for the first time to take out an increased mortgage for the same terms as the first one if he decides to add improvements such as a wing or a bathroom to his house.

Utah Convict Granted Stay

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Speaking through a Utah State Prison guard, Don Jesse Neal praised his petite woman attorney as "the best lawyer in the world" Sunday after learning that U.S. Supreme Court Justice Tom C. Clark had canceled his scheduled date with a Utah firing squad at dawn Tuesday.

Clark's stay was issued over the weekend to allow Neal's attorneys to file a habeas corpus petition before the court. The action gives the Utah convict—sentenced to die for the 1951 shooting of a Salt Lake policeman — at least three more months of life.

Although attorneys for the American Civil Liberties Union handled Neal's plea for a stay before the U.S. high court, his praise was directed at Miss Billy Hulsey, the Salt Lake City attorney who took over leadership of his fight for life last June.

Herbert Monte Levy, staff counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, said the new appeal will be based on contentions Neal did not have a fair trial because of the use of testimony "known to be perjured."



(AP Wirephoto)

LOOKS LIKE HE'D RATHER WALK—Six feet off the ground—the Braham bull's four, the cowboy's two as Bob Wegner of Ponca City, Okla., parted company with his humped companion at the Frontier Days rodeo in Cheyenne, Wyo.

Bobo Waits Attorneys' Word On When to Get Divorce

RENO, Nev. (AP)—Blondie Bobo Rockefeller said Monday she is waiting for her lawyers to tell her when she can get a divorce, and collect a \$5,500,000 settlement.

Bobo, 37, completed her six weeks' Nevada divorce residence Saturday and was free to go into court at any time to ask for a divorce from Winthrop Rockefeller, 42.

'READY ANYTIME'

"But I honestly don't know when it will be," she said. "I'm waiting for my lawyers to tell me. I'm ready anytime."

With the divorce, Bobo will receive a two million dollar cash settlement for herself, plus trust funds and other benefits for her 5-year-old son, Winnie, totaling another \$3,500,000.

All she will have to do to get the windfall will be to present a certified copy of the divorce decree to the trust department of the First National Bank of Nevada. The money has been held in escrow there.

Bobo also planned to ask complete control and custody over Winnie, who will be 6 in September. His father is the grandson of the late John D. Rockefeller.

TALKS TO ATTORNEYS

Bobo conferred with her six lawyers until 2 a.m. Sunday morning.

It was presumed she will base her action on a Nevada law permitting divorce when married couple have lived apart for more than three years. The couple separated shortly after Winnie's birth.

Bobo, a coal miner's daughter was previously married to Boston socialite Richard Sears, she divorced him in 1947. It was Rockefeller's first marriage.

Span Fails; 13 Die

HUELVA, Spain (AP)—Thirteen railwaymen were killed near here Monday when a railway bridge collapsed under a passing freight train, plunging the train and its 14 occupants into an 80-foot ravine. The sole survivor suffered only cuts and bruises.

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Kentucky Contest Tops Week's Primaries

WASHINGTON (AP)—Six states hold primaries this week with the spotlight on a bitter Senate race in Tennessee and the comeback bid for former vice president Alben W. Barkley in Kentucky.

The voting is scheduled in Kansas, Michigan, Missouri and West Virginia Tuesday, in Tennessee Aug. 5 and Kentucky Aug. 7.

Prizes at stake include five seats in the Senate (all but Missouri); 58 in the House, and the governorships of Kansas, Michigan and Tennessee.

Many of the incumbents, Democrats and Republicans, have little or no primary opposition and will automatically win nomination for the November election.

Kentucky politicians expect Barkley and incumbent Republican Sen. John Sherman Cooper to sail through primary opponents and set the stage for a November match between two of the state's best vote-getters since the days of Henry Clay.

Barkley, at 76, is bidding to return to the Senate where he served four terms before stepping into the vice presidency in 1949. Tennessee's primary featured a bitter contest between Sen. Estes Kefauver, seeking a second term, and Rep. Pat Sutton, a 49-year-old Navy veteran who has served in the House for six years.

Sutton accused Kefauver of "coddling Communists" and being backed by "left wingers from New York." Kefauver, who gained national fame as chairman of the Senate's televised crime hearings, retorted that Sutton's backers were once associated with racketeers and gamblers in New Orleans and Miami who were among targets of his investigation.

Another famous televised Senate investigation, the Army-Mc-

Carthy hearings, produced one of the candidates in the Republican senatorial race—Knoxville Lawyer Ray H. Jenkins. His opponent is Robert C. Gregory, a Memphis businessman.

The other primaries at a glance:

Michigan — Republican Sen. Homer Ferguson and Democratic Gov. G. Mennen Williams have no opposition for renomination. Patrick V. McNamara, former Detroit city councilman and AFL building trades union official became the apparent Democratic nominee to oppose Ferguson in November on the sudden death of former Sen. Blair Moody, two weeks before the voting.

Kansas — Republican Sen. An-

drew F. Schoepel, bidding for a second-term nomination, didn't bother to return home and campaign against two lesser known primary opponents—Abraham Joseph Lincoln, a farmer, and Walter H. Peery, a retired businessman. The Democratic senatorial race lay between 75-year-old George McGill, a senator two decades ago, and Ewell Stewart, a Topeka real estate man who has run for the office six times and failed.

West Virginia — Sen. Matthew M. Neely, one of the state's top vote-getters, faces three lesser known rivals in his bid for Democratic nomination to a fifth term. The Republican Senate race is between Tom Sweeney,

twice defeated by Democratic Sen. Harley M. Kilgore (1940 and 1946) and Latelle M. Lafollette, a Charleston attorney.

Missouri—in the absence of

any major state-wide race centered on the renomination of the state's 11 congressmen, seven Democrats and

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