

## Approval Predicted To Add 1,000,000 To Social Security

Washington — (U.P.) — Democratic sources predicted today the House Ways and Means Committee soon will approve legislation that could add almost 1,000,000 persons to the 7,000,000 now getting Social Security checks from the government.

To pay for the new benefits, they predicted, the bill will advance the date of future tax increases already scheduled for employers, employees, and self-employed persons covered by Social Security.

**Closed Doors**  
One Democratic source said the committee probably would agree to advance to January, 1957, a 25 per cent boost in Social Security taxes now scheduled for January, 1960.

The forecast came as the committee was called behind closed doors to resume work on the Democratic plan. Democratic leaders have announced they

will seek to rush the bill through the House soon after it emerges from committee. But the Senate is not likely to act on it until next year.

The Democratic majority of the House committee, after reversing itself several times during the last two weeks, was reported to have agreed finally at a secret caucus late Tuesday on this three point program for liberalizing Social Security:

1. Lower the benefit age to 62 for women.

2. Lower the benefit age to 50 for permanently and totally disabled workers.

**Survivor Benefits**  
3. Allow physically and mentally incapacitated children of deceased workers to draw survivor benefits beyond the present cut-off age of 18.

The benefit age for men and women now is 65.

Under the new plan working women could retire and draw benefits at 62. The lower benefit age also would apply to widows of workers covered by Social Security and to wives of workers who have retired because they are 65 or over.

An estimated one million women would become eligible for benefits under the new plan, of which possibly 700,000 could be expected to draw benefits immediately.

## As We Live

By ELIZABETH HURLOCK, PH.D.

### FEARS HER MARRIAGE MIGHT BE CHILDLESS

Only a doctor who knows the history of a case can answer a question that relates to a person's health. Speculating about the matter will bring unhappiness and should be avoided.

(Q) "I am planning to marry a young man several months from now. Ever since he asked me to marry him, I have been bothered by a problem I hope you can solve for me. About four years ago this man had T. B. but he is fully recovered now. When he was about five years old he had something the matter with his spine—I don't know the right name for it—but he recovered from that too. What I am bothered about is whether these sicknesses would have any effect on our having children. I love children and it would make me very unhappy to have a childless marriage."

(A) Since you have accepted this young man's proposal and are planning to marry him in the

near future, I think you owe it to him and to yourself to settle any doubts you may have about the possibility of having children. Unless you

Dr. Hurlock know what the future is likely to be, it may make you so unhappy that you will spoil your marriage.

I feel sure that your fiancé would want to clear up any questions of this sort if he knew they were bothering you. He should arrange an appointment with his doctor and take you with him to discuss his health and his possibilities of having healthy children in the future.

Knowing his case history, the doctor could tell you with reasonable accuracy what was in store for your future husband.

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**DRAGON HUNTER** — Noel Rosefelt of Ventura, Cal., is shown after recent arrival in San Francisco aboard the SS President Harrison with one of a rare species of Chinese Water Dragons he brought back from China. Rosefelt was captured by the Reds during his dragon hunt but later released and allowed to take his "catch" with him.

St. Paul — Two important B vitamins are found in eggs—thiamine as well as riboflavin.

## Rising Wage Trend Seen Possible Reason for Return of Inflation

Washington—(U.P.)—Will the rising 1955 wage trend, settlements, set off enough price hikes to reactivate that old bugaboo inflation?

Government economists won't say yes and they won't say no. It may well be, they say, that price rises that occur, including the already definite price hike in steel, will be absorbed before they reach consumers.

**Buying Power**  
This would mean an increase in purchasing power of workers with pay rises and an increase in the standard of living instead of inflation.

But obvious factors are present and expected that could create inflation, these economists said. Both the auto industry wage packages, valued at 20 cents an hour in direct wage and other indirect benefits by the CIO auto workers, and the average 15 cents an hour direct wage increase for the CIO Steelworkers were higher than government officials expected.

Government experts believe the impact of these increases will be to give a lift to the rising wage trend, bringing settlements over the rest of the year to between 10 and 15 cents an hour in wage hikes and fringe benefits.

The steel price rise, averaging \$7.50 per ton, is important since steel goes into so many products. If the price rise is carried through to consumers it will be multiplied. Other wage hikes in basic industries also could set

off pyramiding price increases. The wage increases also work another way. With more money in their pockets, workers add to

consumer demand and can bid prices up, if supply lags.

The direct effect of the auto and steel settlements on car prices apparently will be delayed, at least. The auto industry has made no move to raise prices yet. Industry sources have been quoted as saying they will have to consider the effects of their higher labor and steel costs before setting prices on 1956 models.

On the other hand, government economists say, last year's steel wage and price increase and the 1954 wage round in general had no effect on the cost of living and no noticeable effect on wholesale prices. Nor have wage increases so far this year, even though they have been rising fairly steadily over last year's general level of about a nickel an hour plug fringe benefits.

The cost of living actually declined slightly last year and has been steady for the past six months.

## Dentist To Open Office in Medford

Dr. Richard J. Nordquist, a recent graduate of the University of Oregon dental school, will open offices Friday at 832 East Main st., he announced today.

Dr. Nordquist completed pre-dental training at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, and at Westmont college, Santa Barbara, Calif., before enrolling at the Oregon school.

He was in the United States Navy for three years before entering college. A native of Ogden, Utah, he is married. He and Mrs. Nordquist will make their home at 807 Sherman st.

## Political Plot Seen In German Bombing

Munich, Germany — (U.P.) — Police suspected a political plot today in the bomb-killing of a man they believe was a leader of anti-Communist Czechoslovak refugees.

Criminal authorities tentatively identified the victim as Matus Cermak, 52, former Czech culture minister and president of the Slovakian National Council in exile.

He was killed yesterday when he picked up an explosive parcel at a downtown post office. A bystander was also killed and 20 other persons were injured.

Cermak was prominent in anti-Communist refugee circles here. He was also a convicted Nazi collaborator. Police said it was "highly probable" he was a victim of a political plot.

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