

Congressmen Differ on Effect Of Basic Wage on NW Economy

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Correspondent
Washington—Two Northwest congressmen sharply differ on whether the new minimum wage law of \$1 per hour will have any appreciable effect on the economy of the Pacific Northwest.
Rep. Thor Tollefson (R-Wash.) contends the new law "placed in jeopardy not only the jobs of 600,000 forest-product workers on the Pacific Coast, but the profitable operation of one of the industries of paramount importance to the economy and well-being of our area." Tollefson was referring to the lumber industry.
Rep. Sam Coon (R-Ore.) claims

the bill will not adversely affect the lumber industry or any other industry in the region, because the prevailing wage rate in the Northwest is already well above the minimum stipulated in the new act. Coon is a member of the House Labor and Education Committee which handled the bill.
Exception Cited
Tollefson based his argument on a section of the bill which exempts from its provisions "any forest-product operation employing 12 or fewer persons."
"Most of the lumber camps and mills in the South employ 12 or fewer persons; thus the operators can pay any wages they wish to tens of thousands

of workers, giving the products they make an extremely favorable competitive advantage over those manufactured in our area where a decent wage prevails," Tollefson declared.
Coon said he was convinced from listening to testimony of lumber operators from the South and the Northwest that this would not be the case. He said most of the small operators in the South were producing such items as wooden food crates and barrels which are not competitive with Northwest lumber products.
"Our people have been shipping more and more lumber products into the South every

year," Coon said, indicating that the South cannot offer great competition to the mills of the Northwest. He said that while wages are lower in the South, Northwest operators find they are getting a higher rate of production from their workers who are paid higher wage scales.
Although Tollefson was critical of this feature of the bill and Coon said it would not disturb the economy of the Northwest, Tollefson supported the increase in the minimum wage from 75 cents to \$1 and Coon opposed it.
"I think we will probably do more harm to small business and those wage earners we are sup-

posed to be trying to help," Coon said, explaining that many employers told the committee they might still operate profitably at 90 cents but were doubtful if they can do it at \$1.
Favored 90 Cents
Coon favored the 90 cent level, as advocated by President Eisenhower; and he supported efforts on the floor to amend the bill to that effect. On the vote for the bill itself, Coon at first voted against it, then changed his vote in support of it.
"After doing all I could to change it to 90 cents," Coon said, "I thought I might as well go along with it (and vote for the \$1 amount in the final bill)."

About 11 congressmen from the Pacific Northwest were among the 362 who voted for the bill on the final roll call, against 54 who opposed it.
In another congressional action affecting the lumber industry to a degree, Congress turned down a bid by the domestic hardboard industry for a boost in the tariff on imported hardboard from Canada and the Scandinavian countries.
The tariff increase was attached by the Senate as a rider to a bill allowing servicemen to import gifts duty free. The House had passed the gift bill earlier without the hardboard rider, which was then knocked off in

conference.
Ex-Rep. Lowell Stockman (R-Ore.) lobbied here for weeks to get the rider approved, after failing last year to get favorable action on a bill of the same nature. Stockman is now in the hardboard business at Pilot Rock, Ore.
Arizona farmers near Phoenix claim they can grow up to 740 watermelons to the acre, a crop which is at least three times the national average.

LOCKER BEEF
YOUNG AND TENDER
Only 35c lb.—Cut and Wrapped
Free Delivery Within City Limits
Phone 3-9108—Ask for Loyd

HOME FREEZER SALE at JOHNSTON STORES

15 cu. ft. Holds 530 lbs. \$299⁹⁵ \$10 down \$14⁵⁰ month
20 cu. ft. Holds 715 lbs. \$399⁹⁵ \$10 down \$19³⁰ month

Special Values Celebrating KELVINATOR'S 15,000,000th APPLIANCE MILESTONE

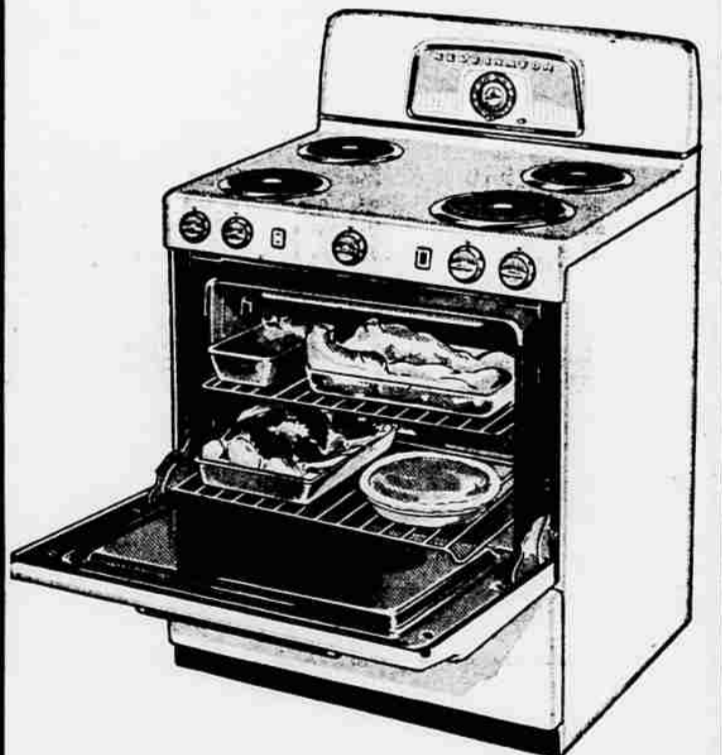
TRADE IN YOUR OLD RANGE
On This Terrific Value!



Deluxe KELVINATOR Automatic Electric Range
\$199⁹⁵ And Your Old Range
NO MONEY DOWN \$950 MONTH
AVAILABLE ON OUR MISS SIX PAYMENT PLAN

- BUILT-IN CLOCK AND OVEN TIMER
- MINUTE MINDER
- RANGE TOP LIGHT
- LARGE STORAGE COMPARTMENT

THIRTY INCH Fully Automatic

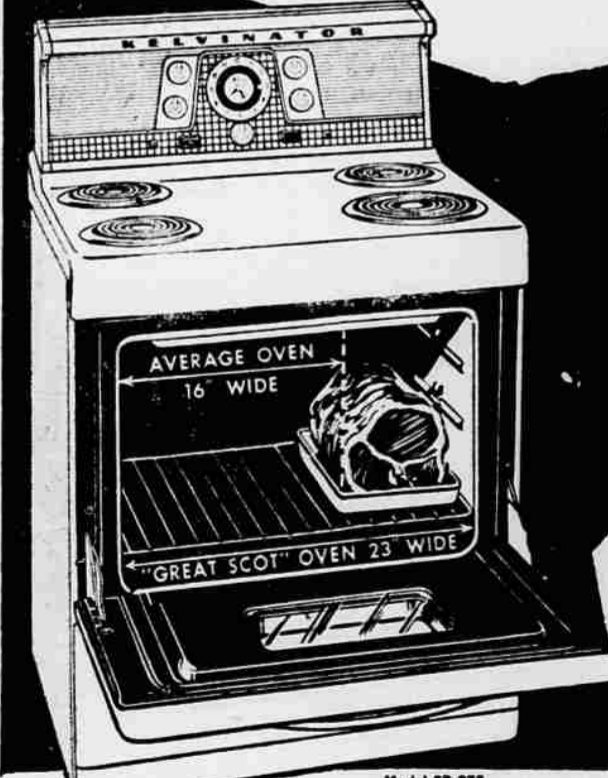


- ★ Huge Oven, 24" wide
- ★ Automatic Controls and Flood Lamp
- ★ Porcelain Throughout
- ★ Full Storage Drawer

\$199⁹⁵ NO MONEY DOWN \$950 Month
Drive-In Parking
No driving around looking for a place to park. It's so much more convenient to Drive Right in to JOHNSTON STORES.

Here's the MOST for your dollar!

Deluxe Automatic 1955 KELVINATOR 30-INCH ELECTRIC RANGE WITH



"GREAT SCOT" OVEN

IT'S A WHOLE ROAST WIDER THAN MOST!

- AUTOMATIC OVEN CONTROLS Starts, times and stops oven operations, automatically.
- 4 "ROCKET" SURFACE UNITS All surface units are high-speed "Rocket" type that heat red hot in seconds. Removable chrome rings and deep porcelain drip pans can be washed like dishes.
- PICTO-HEAT SWITCHES Tell at a glance what's cooking where and on how much heat. Surface units have independently operated inner and outer rings so you can tailor heat to pan size.
- GREAT SCOT OVEN Super-fast pre-heat—350° in 5 minutes. Heat Lock oven door seals heat inside for best baking.
- FLUORESCENT TOPLIGHT Floodlights cooking surfaces with brilliant, glare-free illumination.
- CONVENIENT, ACCURATE MINUTE TIMER Signal sounds when cooking period is up.

\$225 and Your Old Range No Money Down \$175 Month
8 NEW DECORATOR COLORS... AND WHITE

At Your Service For the Years Ahead

JOHNSTON STORES
112 South Riverside