

Income Tax Reduction Next Year Now Almost a Cinch; Details Not Figured

Improvement Told In Highway Surface

Springfield, Ill. — (U.P.) — Emmet Poston, a brick manufacturer, claims he has developed a "practically indestructible" new type of pavement that is tougher, cheaper and easier to install than concrete and other present types of road surfacing.

Poston says his "ceramic" pavement has been tested by the U.S. Navy and was shown to support more than the 50,000-pound weight impact per wheel required by the Navy. The Navy requirement is several times the load allowed on most state highways for all wheels on truck axles.

Poston said the pavement is impervious to weather, requires no expansion joints for heat expansion as concrete does and is even undamaged by the great heat built up by warming up jet airplanes.

He said the ceramic pavement, called "Postonway," can be manufactured for \$3.46 a yard compared to \$3.55 for concrete and can be installed by a contractor with \$3,000 worth of equipment once initial grading is finished.

Giant Toad Studied By College Scientists

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — Scientists at the University of California are studying a giant toad that can squirt poison 12 feet and devours rats and mice.

The researchers are trying to determine whether the toad normally uses the substance defensively as a spray technique. The poison, which has been reported volatile, may form poison gas when squirted.

Experiments in a tiny gas chamber with a skunk, however, have failed to prove the toad's poison is effective. The skunk is believed to be a natural predator of the toad.

The amphibian is known as the Colorado River toad because it is a native of the Colorado basin. It grows to a length of nearly a foot and only the marine toad of South America is larger.

Who Gets Most Benefit, Credit To Be Decided

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Correspondent

Washington — (U.P.) — An income tax reduction next year is almost in the bag now. But it remains to be shown which taxpayers will get the most benefit and which politicians the most credit.



Lyle C. Wilson

The election year tax cut was bagged on Tuesday at Gettysburg where President Eisenhower agreed on defense spending with the appropriate officials. The target figure for the fiscal year which begins next June 30 was fixed at \$34,500,000,000.

That is about \$17,250,000,000 in pre-war dollars, the dollar having shrunk since 1939 to the equivalent of four bits under a political and wartime squeeze. If the dollar remains relatively stable in the next 18 months as it has for the past couple of years, there is a fair chance that the Pentagon spending officers will not much exceed in fiscal 1957 the \$34,500,000,000 within which their commander-in-chief has ordered them to remain.

Defense spending is not being cut much if any. The experts say the real significance of the Gettysburg figure is that there will be no cut in defense spending merely to make a tax cut possible and no increase in defense spending in response to an intensification of the cold war — or the Geneva disappointment.

Three Other Fields

With defense spending on a fairly even level, the logical keys to tax reduction seem to lie in three other fields. They are: (1) Revenue, which probably will increase beyond estimates; (2) Agriculture and how much subsidy will be voted the farmers; (3) foreign aid and what will be done to meet the stepped-up Soviet challenge in that field.

They will be factors in the final decision. But a fourth factor is presidential year politics.

Both parties urgently desire to win friends among voters next year. There are few better means of doing so than by reducing taxes.

Unofficial reports recently credited the treasury with estimating now for a budget surplus in fiscal 1957 ranging from \$2,000,000,000 to \$4,000,000,000. This assumes that Congress, the administration, the farm bloc and others are willing to hold the spending line.

There's a school bloc, too, a big one. And a lot of persons in and out of congress are seeking bigger sums for roads. All of these will have their impact in spending.

Election Year Gravy

The most favorable factor is zooming national production which increases treasury income. Increased revenues are so much political gravy in an election year.

Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (Tex.), recently proposed "tax revision to benefit low income groups". That would be by increasing exemptions which would remove some millions of persons from the tax rolls altogether.

Something along those lines is likely, perhaps accompanied with some added relief for higher bracket taxpayers. There is considerable Republican support for the latter, but probably not enough to prevent an exemption hike which would confine substantial relief to the lowest income groups.

That's where the votes are.

SKIING IMPROVEMENTS

Hanover, N. H. — (U.P.) — Nearly \$4,000,000 has been spent on New England's skiing facilities during the past year. There are new developments at Burke Mountain in Lyndonville, Vt., Mt. Okemo in Ludlow, Vt., and Sugar Loaf Mountain in Kingfield, Me. There have been extensive improvements in several other areas.

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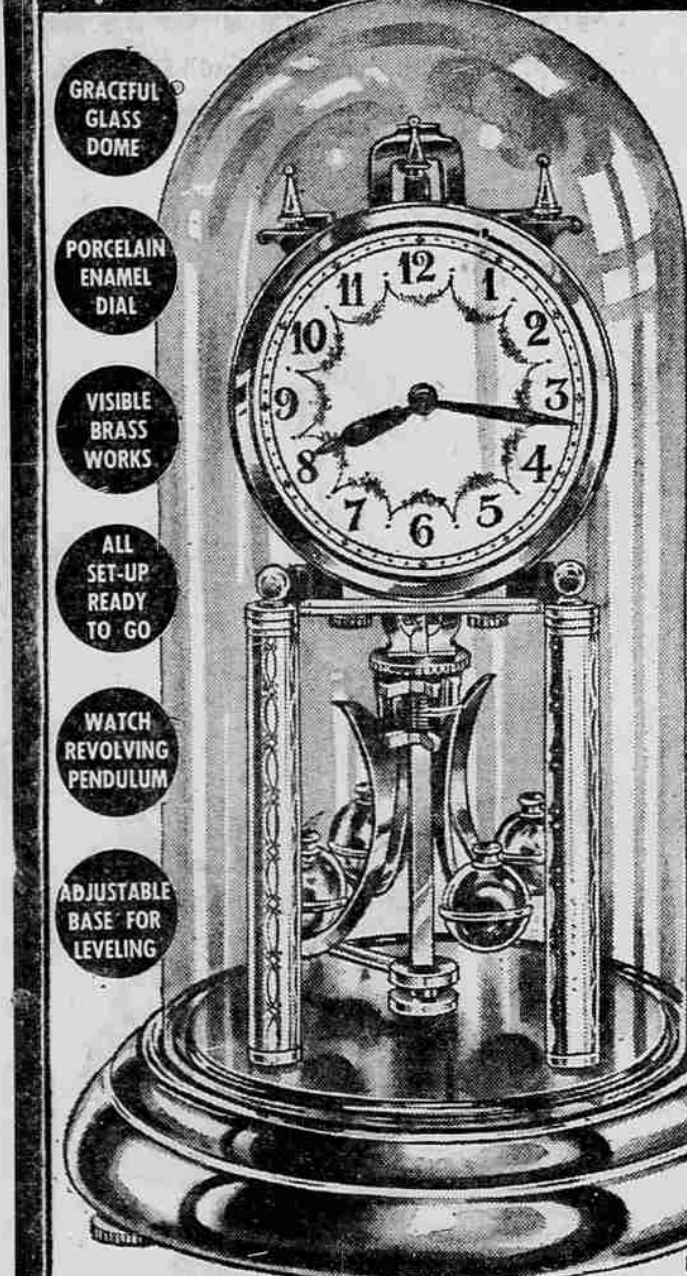
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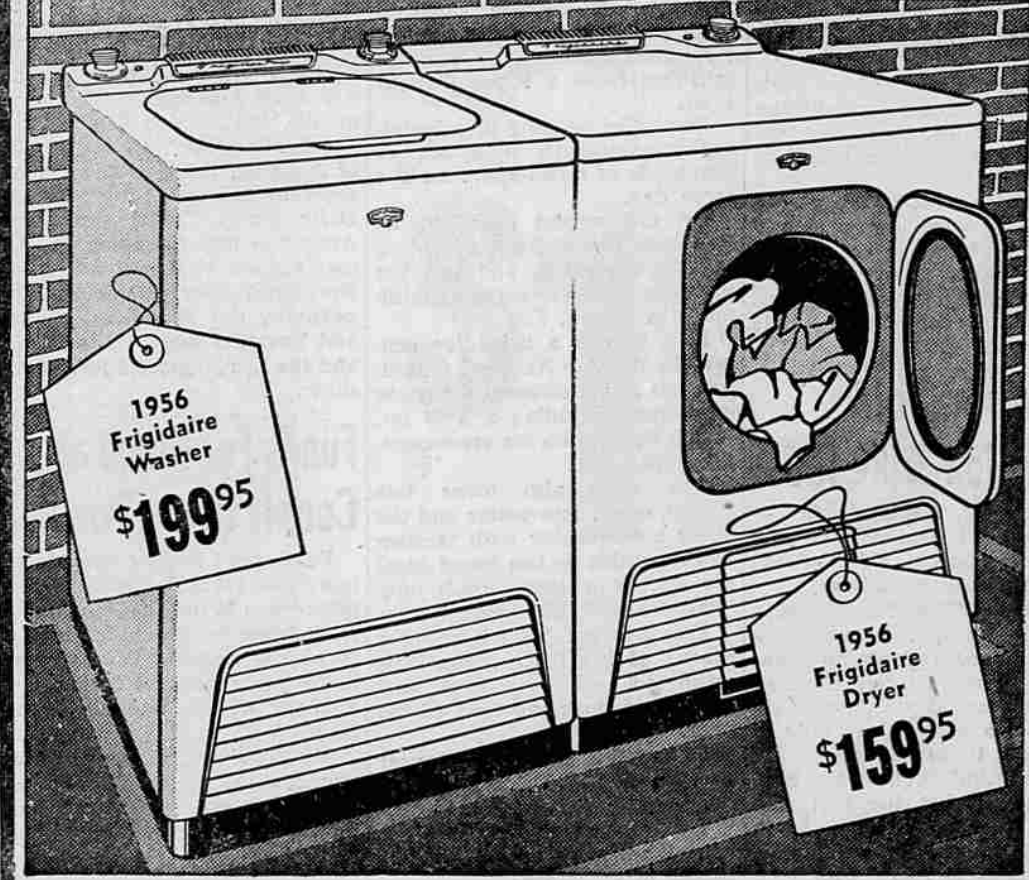
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