

# Administration Continues In Field of Welfare But Ventures Into Nothing New

Editor's note: This is the third in a series on the record of the Eisenhower administration, based largely on a detailed analysis made by The New York Times, an independent newspaper.

**BY A. ROBERT SMITH**  
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Fair Deal days of the Truman administration was what they called the drift toward a "welfare state" — so it is ironic that one of the first major actions of the GOP Congress in 1953 after President Eisenhower took office was to grant his request for creation of a new government department to handle federal welfare programs.

Congress had twice rejected similar pleas from President Truman, but under Eisenhower a new cabinet office was created to head the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. This first cabinet officer was

## Victor Miller Quits Oregon Senate Race

Salem—(U.P.)—Victor P. Miller, retired Portland army officer, conceded today that Wayne Morse and Douglas McKay will have to "go it alone" in the race for United States senator from Oregon.

Miller resting near Redding, Calif., from his one-man campaign for nomination as an independent, managed to garner only 11,000 of the 17,002 signatures necessary to get his name on the November ballot.

Dave O'Hara, state elections chief, said only two independent candidates filed prior to the deadline. They were Bill Bear, Bend, for state senator from Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson and Lake counties, and Henry Semon, Klamath Falls, for state representative from Klamath county. Semon had run as a Democrat for 12 terms.

## Seven Still Missing In Alaska Bail-Out

Anchorage, Alaska—(U.P.)—Officials at the Elmendorf Air Force base here said today search planes still had not found any signs of the remaining seven men who parachuted from a sputtering KC-97 Stratotanker early Monday.

One man, Lt. Robert Moore, the co-pilot, was found on the northwest shore of Fire island, five miles from here, 25 minutes after Capt. Alva L. Wilkerson, 31, had given the bail-out command.

Mechanical trouble had developed in two of the plane's four engines when the jump order was given at 1 a.m. Wilkerson later brought the plane in for a successful landing at Elmendorf. None of the seven was from the Pacific Northwest.

## Amended Motions Filed by Langley

Portland—(U.P.)—William M. Langley, Multnomah county district attorney, filed amended motions here yesterday to set aside the indictment returned against him by the recent vice-probing grand jury.

The lengthy document charged several irregularities in the conduct of the probe and labeled some of the proceedings "lynch law."

An "incomprehensive hodge podge" was the result of the probe, according to Langley.

**TEMPTATION**  
Grand Rapids, Mich.—(U.P.)—A \$20 bill in an advertising display at an appliance store was too much of a temptation for a local thief. He broke into the building, smashed the glass protecting the display and took the bill, police reported. Nothing else was disturbed.

Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, who was later to bow out under fire for dragging her feet on federal aid to education proposals and the administration of government supervision over Salk vaccine production and distribution for national polio inoculations.

Mrs. Hobby wanted to call it the "Department of The General Welfare," referring to that phrase in the Constitution's preamble which states that one purpose of the nation's basic document is to "promote the general welfare." The late Sen. Robert A. Taft quashed that idea, saying, "That's just what I am trying to get away from."

President Eisenhower had no such anti-welfare state convictions. On election eve in 1952, he told the American people: "I pledge that the social gains achieved by the people, whether enacted by a Republican or Democrat administration, are not only here to stay but are here to be improved and extended."

**Budget Shows Pledge Kept**  
If budget figures are taken as a criteria, that pledge has been kept. The Eisenhower administration today is spending more money than the Truman administration for the government's various welfare programs.

Also, social security benefits have been extended to 10,000,000 more Americans, raising the number covered today to more than 55,000,000. But one other program—public housing—has been cut back from 75,000 new units annually to 35,000.

Shortly after Congress adjourned this summer, Eisenhower signed a new social security bill which he had not wanted but was handed him by the Democratic 84th Congress. Its main feature was to drop the age of eligibility for women from 65 to 62. Other instances show that Congress insisted on appropriating more welfare funds than the administration asked for.

Mrs. Hobby, for example, tried at first to cut back funds for welfare programs but was stung by angry outcries from professional welfare groups. Subsequently her budget requests were pared to the previous year's amounts but no further. Almost invariably, Congress raised the amounts substantially. So, in effect, Congress implemented the president's campaign pledge despite Mrs. Hobby.

**Earned Credit for Work**  
On the other hand, Mrs. Hobby earned credit for advances in work on vocational rehabilitation and for broadening the Hill-Burton hospital construction act. Her proposal for federal reinsurance of private insurance policies covering hospital and medical care was rejected by Congress in 1954.

The only lady in the cabinet ran into trouble on federal aid for school construction, an issue raised by overcrowded public schools in many rapidly expanding communities throughout the nation. Despite the president's urging for her to devise a program, she delayed for two years while studying the matter. Finally, she came fourth with a complicated plan for federal purchase of local school bonds plus limited grants to impoverished school districts. It went over like a lead balloon.

Mrs. Hobby's worst trouble came in the wake of medical pronouncements in 1955 that the Salk polio vaccine was safe and effective, for she was blamed for having no advance plans to assure effective federal testing and distribution procedures. She resigned July 14, 1955.

Eisenhower named as her successor Marion B. Folsom, who had been undersecretary of the Treasury. He immediately went to work on a school aid program, which went to Congress last January. It was a five-year program of \$2 billion in loans and aid.

The Democrats in Congress, however, came up with a more extensive aid program—but the whole issue became ensnarled over the question of whether aid should be withheld from school districts which continue racially segregated classes until they in-

tegrate the races in conformity with the Supreme Court's decision. So no bill passed.

In the area of research, both the president and Congress have increased funds for a stepped up program. The budget of the Office of Education has been doubled, allowing for research into such questions as educational needs of low-income families, the causes and remedies for students dropping out of high school, and instruction of mentally retarded children.

### Party Brought Long Way

By almost any standard, the Eisenhower administration has brought the Republican party a long way in a short time toward acceptance of the New Deal-Fair Deal welfare philosophy. The administration has led an often reluctant Republican party in carrying forward and expanding practically every major undertaking in this field other than

public housing. It has introduced innovations in providing federal aid for private housing development, and augmenting slum clearance.

At the same time, the administration has not pushed ahead much into unexplored territory. More often than not, it has resisted any major new concept of social welfare aid by the government. The main example was their opposition this year to reducing the social security age for women and against benefits for disabled workers, which had to be forced on the administration by the Democratic Congress.

This is pretty much in line with the Eisenhower campaign pledge to keep social gains of the past, possibly improving and extending them, but not venturing into new fields of social welfare without great reluctance.

(Next—What About Falling Farm Prices?)



**VICTORY SMILES**—Sen. Price Daniel and his wife smile at their home in Liberty, Tex., following the senator's apparent victory in the closest gubernatorial primary in Texas history. With only 1600 votes not counted, unofficial returns gave Daniel a 2523 vote lead over Ralph Yarborough for the Democratic nomination.

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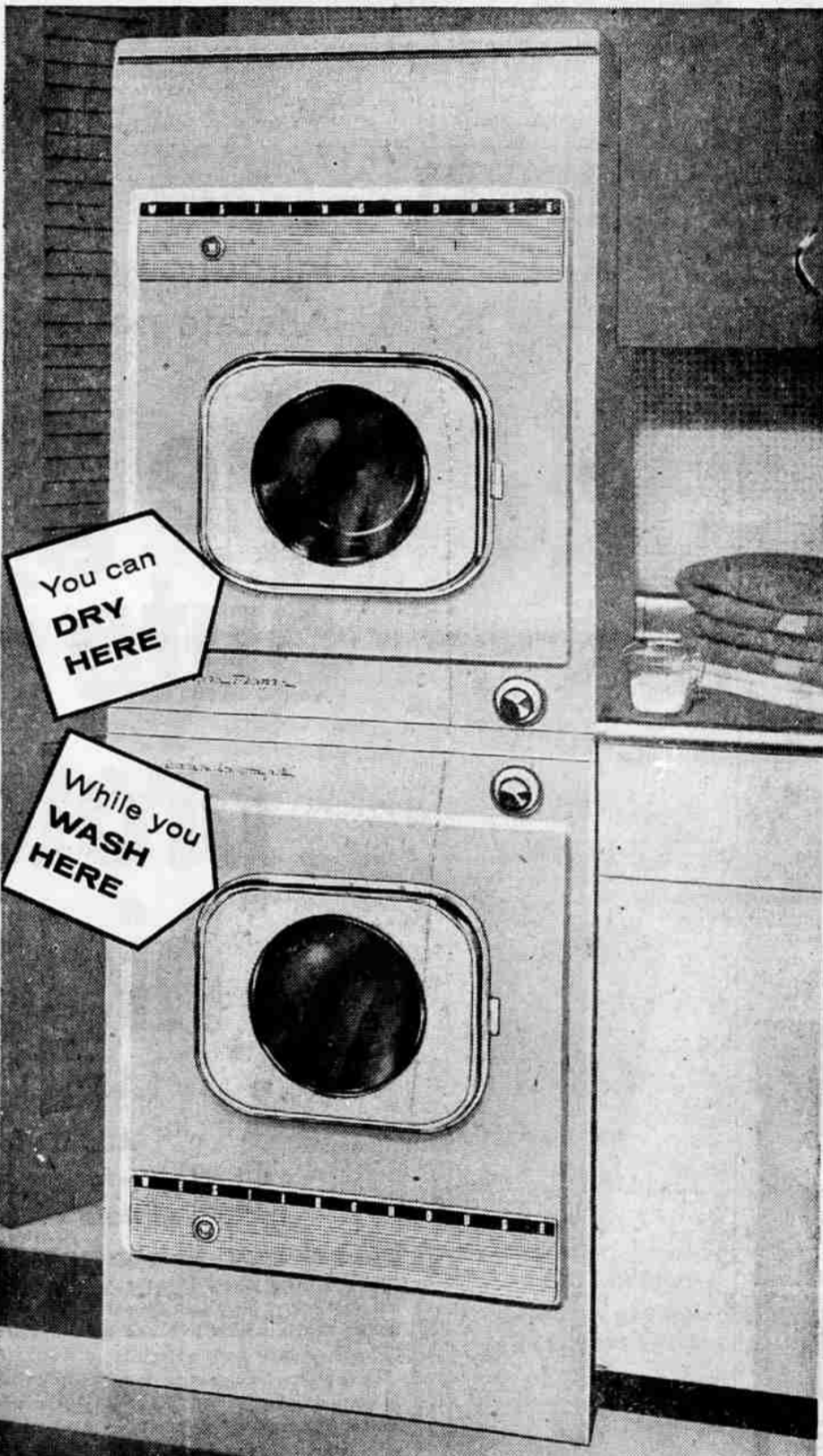
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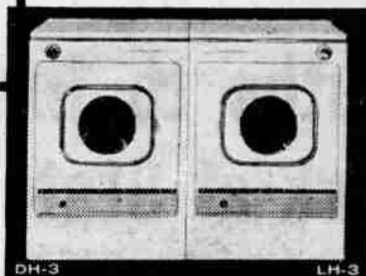
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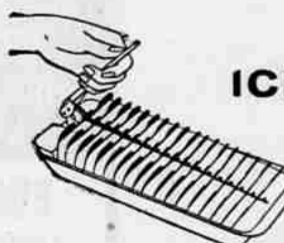
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