

### Democrats Decide To Cut Airport Aid Program

Washington — (UPI) — Congressional Democrats decided today to give in to President Eisenhower's economy pleas by cutting back their airport aid program.

But Republican Sen. Norris Cotton (N.H.) described Eisenhower's delicately-balanced budget as a "house of cards . . . bound to be toppled sooner or later." He said the "spending juggernaut" was "rolling through the halls of Congress completely unchecked."

Key Democrats forecast the House Commerce Committee would trim the Senate-passed \$465 million airport plan. Chairman Oren Harris (D-Ark.), who earlier sponsored a \$437-million version, was said to be ready to urge the committee to cut it to \$380 million.

**Still Above Proposal**  
That still would leave the Democratic measure \$180 million more expensive than Eisenhower's proposal.

Democrats felt GOP charges that the program would throw the government into the red in fiscal 1960 were punctuated by the fact that it would cost only \$15 million more than the President's in the next 16 months.

Democrats, apparently feeling the sting of Eisenhower's "spend-thrift" charges, already have cut \$100 million from the airport plan in the Senate and \$875 million from an omnibus housing bill in the house.

**Other congressional news:**  
**Labor:** Chairman John L. McClellan (D-Ark.) of the Senate Rackets inquiry was scheduled to introduce a labor clean-up bill. This came on the heels of approval by the Senate labor subcommittee of a milder Democratic measure sponsored by Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Sam J. Ervin (D-N.C.). Senate Republicans said the subcommittee action did not kill off Eisenhower's sterner labor reform proposals.

**Farm:** Sen. Frank Carlson (R-Kan.), introduced a bill to curb the nation's huge wheat surplus. He conceded it might raise the price of bread by boosting the cost of wheat. But Carlson said his measure would save taxpayers at least \$400 million a year by cutting the wheat surplus, the number one farm problem.

**Civil Rights:** Northern liberals were assured that the first congressional civil rights hearings will concentrate on the strong proposals they support rather than more moderate measures.

**Taxes:** The House passed by voice vote a bill to increase taxes on the life insurance industry by \$200 million a year. If it becomes law it would bring in \$545 million in taxes on 1958 insurance income. The bill was sent to the Senate where early hearings were planned.

### Fog Over England Worst in 20 Years

London — (UPI) — A great blanket of fog hovered over southern England today, paralyzing land, sea and air transportation in the worst blackout in 20 years.

London airport has been out of service since Wednesday night, bus service in the city was virtually nonexistent, and the few trains that completed journeys to the capital ran far behind schedule.

Highways leading to London were clogged by abandoned cars and trucks.

Shipping officials were assembling tenders to take passengers off the giant liner Queen Elizabeth, fog-bound for four days in the English Channel a few miles from Southampton.

The fog caused a number of shipping accidents—notably the grounding of a Norwegian tanker near the Isle of Wight and a collision between a small British liner and a fishing boat—but no casualties were reported.

Similar conditions applied in 25 counties, a belt of territory stretching from the Channel to the industrial midlands.

"We cannot recall such a complete and widespread blackout . . ." said auto-club spokesmen. "Conditions are the worst in 20 years."

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