

Liberal Democrats' Broad Legislative Program Bogs Down

By Congressional Quarterly
Washington-(CQ)—A lot can and probably will happen before Congress adjourns some weeks hence, but one point now seems certain. The "clear and comprehensive" program of legislation, for which liberal Democrats claim they received an overwhelming popular mandate last November, is going nowhere fast.

President Eisenhower's July 7 veto of the controversial housing bill was simply the latest in a series of developments pointing up the fact that the liberals, whatever their real strength in the country, have neither the votes nor the influence in Congress to put over a legislative program.

Such a program was laid down last December by the Advisory Council of the Democratic National Committee, and no one disputed the Council's estimate that, with 2-to-1 majorities in Senate and House, "it should now be possible to enact desirable legislation that the Administration has previously defeated."

In the event, however, it has not proved possible. Here is the rundown on what has happened, or is likely to happen, to these major planks of the Advisory Council's program:

Urban renewal: A "significantly larger" program of Federal grants for slum clearance was approved by the Senate and the House, then cut back by Democratic leaders in an effort to avoid a threatened veto. The President vetoed the bill anyway, and no attempt to override is expected.

Aid-to-airports: In 1958 President Eisenhower vetoed a bill boosting Federal grants for building airports from \$63 million to \$100 million a year. This year the Senate again passed an equally generous measure; the House cut this back, but not as far as the President wanted. Again Democratic leaders decided to duck a veto, compromised on a two-year extension of the program without change.

Depressed areas: After vetoing last year a \$280-million program of grants and loans to domestic areas with chronic unemployment, the President again asked Congress for a \$50-million program confined to loans. The Senate responded by passing almost the same \$390-million bill it had approved in 1958. A \$251-million version is before the House Rules Committee, but there is little hope that any area redevelopment bill can be enacted at this session.

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Aid-to-education: The Council called for Federal scholarships and grants for school construction. No scholarship program is under consideration; a bill carrying \$4.4 billion a year for four years for school construction and teachers' salaries is anguishing before the House Rules Committee. Senate Democrats plan to revive the President's 1957 school construction proposal (which he later abandoned) but it's questionable whether he would sign such a bill today.

Labor reform: The Kennedy labor reform bill, as in 1958, has passed the Senate and is awaiting House action. The Democratic leadership is under strong pressure to get the bill through, but it's too early to assume success.

Civil rights: As with labor reform, Democratic leaders are committed to passing a civil rights bill in 1959. But there is little chance that Congress will approve the key provision sought by liberals—the so-called Section III, giving the Attorney General the power to start civil injunc-

tion suits, that was knocked out of the Civil Rights Act of 1957.

All in all, it's clear why liberal Democrats, in their mounting frustration, are challenging the course of moderation charted by the two Texans who run Congress, Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson and Speaker Sam Rayburn.

Lacking the power to override vetoes, say Johnson and Rayburn, there is no point in courting them. To the contrary, say the liberals, vetoes will help to define those issues on which the two parties must do battle in 1960.

Whoever is right, a "clear and comprehensive Democratic program" is a long way from enactment.

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Flames Destroy Montague Wheat

Montague, Calif. — (UPI)—One hundred acres of the best wheat on the Earl Flock ranch in Little Shasta valley near Steam Boat mountain five miles east of here was destroyed by fire Thursday afternoon.

The wheat had been planted and was being harvested by Norman Flock on his father's ranch.

More than 400 acres of the crop were endangered by the fire.

According to Bill Ensbury, fire dispatcher with the California state department of forestry at Yreka, the fire was started by a spark from a harvester which Flock was operating. It broke out at 3 p.m. and was brought under control about three hours later.

Two forest service borate planes made eight trips over the fire dumping 2,400 gallons of borate solution on the flames.

More than 100 men, two bulldozers and a truck worked on the fire lines.

Council Fails to Reach Decision On Retired Employees Pay Rise

The city council Thursday night was unable to reach a conclusion about a proposed increase for the pay base of nine retired city employees.

The matter demands action by Aug. 5 and Mayor John Snider indicated that a special meeting of the council would be called before then.

The increase was passed by the state legislature this year but was left up to political subdivisions—in this case the city—to accept or reject. It calls for a raise of \$2 per month per year of service for employees who resigned prior to becoming eligible for Social Security benefits. City Manager Robert A. Duff said that the yearly cost to Med-

ford would be less than \$3,000.

Agrees on Increase
The council agreed that the increase should be made, but not until next year, since no budget funds have been allotted for that purpose.

If the council fails to reject the increase by Aug. 5, it will go into effect automatically. Duff said that he was unable to say whether the raise could be rejected this year and put into effect next year. The state is waiting for an opinion from the attorney general, he said.

The motion to reject the raise was voted against by Councilmen Robert L. Baccus, Ward III; R. L. Van Sickle, Ward III; and Al Bradford, Ward II. Since this was the first time it was voted on, it required a three-fourth majority to pass and the council was deadlocked.

Major Objection
The major objection raised to the increase was that there was "no money in the budget for it."

Other action by the council

Bradford suggested that "we owe something to the employees." He said that since the raise would not go into effect until 1960, only six months of the current budget would be affected.

Baccus said that, since the attorney general's opinion might not be known in time to act, to reject the raise now might permanently remove it from possibility.

Makes Comparison
Van Sickle asked how the other council members could compare \$75,000 for a swimming pool against two bucks a month for an employee."

Snider said that if the vote were tied he would vote against the increase at the present time. He said that at a special meeting of the council the proposed rejection would not require a three-quarter majority. He said that a special meeting would be called and the expectation is that the raise will be rejected at that time.

In other action, the council

Thursday night included:

The continued public hearing on rezoning from single family to light industrial for a portion of the Farr property in the Valley Center subdivision was further continued until the first meeting in October. At that time it is expected that the proposed trailer court zone classification will be in operation and the hearing will be concluded. William Doernbach of 143 Mac street, asked that a decision be reached because the matter has "been going on for quite some time."

Subdivision License
The possibility of a city license for subdividers was brought up by Councilman Hansen, and City Manager Duff said the matter will be placed before an executive committee of the council.

Herb Partridge, 502 Whitman place, was named to the City Parks and Recreation commission, replacing Mrs. Diamond Flynn.

In other action, the council

repealed certain superseded and obsolete ordinances; commended 87 city employees who satisfactorily completed the International City Managers association supervisory training course; authorized and improved a number of plans and specifications for improvement projects; and awarded a contract for a sanitary sewer in the South Springbrook project.

The council also called for a public hearing at 7:30 p.m., Aug. 20 for the annexation of the Dan Patch tract south of the Rosedale subdivision in the north area of the city; and heard recommendations from the planning commission and the parks and recreation commission.

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Korean Veterans Should Apply Soon

Korean veterans planning to start school in the fall under the Korean GI bill should apply now and avoid the rush, S. T. Brannock, contact representative, Veterans Administration domiciliary, Camp White, said yesterday.

With nearly a half-million veterans expected to be in training this fall, VA regional offices through the nation will be operating at full-speed to handle their papers.

Brannock advised veterans to give plenty of thought in advance to his goal, since the law allows a veteran to change his GI course only once.

Vocational counseling is available through the VA.

Veterans also should be sure the course has been GI-approved; make arrangements for gaining admission before filing with the VA; send application and a copy of separation papers to the VA regional office serving his area; and include proof of dependents.

Further information is available at the contact office, Camp White.

Dynamite Still Gone in Ashland

Ashland—Several sticks of dynamite stolen from Ashland city property are still missing, Ashland city police said Saturday.

The dynamite was stolen from a powder house south of Lithia park, city police said. The powder house is located in a canyon not far from the city water filtration plant and the entire area there is enclosed by fence and locked gate.

A watchman patrols the area throughout the 24 hours, but thieves managed to get by him while he was at the other end of the property, police said.

The dynamite was removed from the locked shed. One stick was found where it had been thrown into one of the city's water tanks at the filtration plant.

Police requested that the thief throw the dynamite into water where it would be rendered harmless. City Superintendent Elmer Biegel said that as the dynamite ages the glycerin settles down and the material is more likely to explode.

Railway passenger cars have an average length of from 75 to 85 feet.

Portland Couple Hurt in Plane

Bellingham—(UPI)—A Portland Ore., couple was rushed to Saint Lukes hospital here Friday by a Navy helicopter after they suffered burns in the crash of a chartered private plane on Blakely Island, about 30 miles southwest of here.

Four other persons were slightly injured in the flaming crash of the Aerial Commander which exploded after clipping the treetops near the island landing strip.

Hospital authorities identified the seriously injured persons as Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Dallas, Portland. Their conditions were not immediately known.

The other persons injured were not immediately identified.

Grange News

POMONA
Master Robert Bitterling will report on accomplishments of the recent state grange session at the meeting of Jackson County Pomona grange Saturday, July 25, at 8 p.m. in Griffin Creek grange.

Plans for the state fair exhibit will be completed. Refreshments will be furnished by the host group.

Salem—UPI—The State Highway Commission has announced that, after the opening of bids on about five million dollars of highway improvement projects July 21, no further bid openings will be scheduled until the matter of financing of the federal highway system is clarified by Congress.

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<p>WOMEN'S SHOES Walking Styles 3⁸⁸ Some fine leather punched pig casuals in navy blue. Sizes 6½ to 9½ and chine cleated soled, canvas oxfords in brown or navy. Sizes 6 to 10 . . . Could get only 88 pairs . . . Hurry!</p>	<p>MEN'S CASUALS Glove Leather! \$5. Fancy soft glove elk finished leather with cushion crepe soles, step-in casual or moc toe lace oxfords, size 6 to 12 in B, C and D widths.</p>	<p>Women's SANDALS Now! 1⁶⁶ Higher priced leather thong styled sandals, white with gold trim, black with silver trim. Sizes 5 to 9—only 45 pairs of these—find your size early!</p>
<p>MEN'S SHOES Canvas Casuals 2²⁹ Crepe soled canvas step-in casuals, in navy blue. Sizes 6½ to 9½ and chine cleated soled, canvas oxfords in brown or navy. Sizes 6 to 10 . . . Could get only 88 pairs . . . Hurry!</p>	<p>MEN'S OXFORDS Now! \$5. Tremendous buys! Heavy soled moccasin toe brogues, cordovan color, 7½ to 10 in A and B widths only . . . and black plain toe oxfords—7½ to 11½ in B widths. Find your size—You'll find a buy!</p>	<p>Men's WORK SHOES Now! \$6. Goodyear welts, in comfortable plain toe style . . . regular 6 inch style . . . long wearing cork and rubber soles. Sizes 6 to 11 in E widths—Save Dollars on these.</p>

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