

# Deficit Financing, Raising of Debt Ceiling Brings Sock in Eye After 10 Years of Marriage

Editor's Note: Here is a light hearted discussion of family financing in terms of the federal budget.

By HARRY FERGUSON

Washington - (UPI) - So okay I shouldn't have socked her in the eye us being married ten years with almost no trouble but she's a off on this kick about running our budget the way the government does and when she says I gotta ask for a pay cut to pump money into the economy I let her have it. She's reading this magazine where it says a woman called Elizabeth Rudel Smith is treasurer of the United States and signs her name on dollar bills and she says she always knew women was smarter

than men and from now on she is going to run our budget. I got the Yankees at Cleveland on the TV and Donovan has this three and two count on Maris in the top of the fifth with no score and two on so I didn't pay much attention when she sticks this piece of paper in front of me and says sign here.

**Deficit Financing**  
Soon as I sign I can see we're in hock to the building and loan for a thousand bucks and she says this is deficit financing and what is good for Uncle Samuel is good for us. I says what's wrong with our budget now a hundred a week take home pay which takes care of the mortgage and the installments on the TV and the car and even five bucks a week for the savings bank but she says its a balanced budget and under some conditions it's a cleeshay to say a balanced budget is good.

I says cleeshay or no cleeshay what's the sense of borrowing dough when you're doing okay as is and she says make up your mind whether you want to drop anchor or sail on.

**No Vegetable Garden**  
So Saturday I'm out in the yard to look at the vegetable garden and nothing ain't been planted and I asked her about it and she says she paid the Elliott boy next door five smackers not to plant our vegetables and I says that's crazy and she says if you don't take acreage out of production you have uncontrollable surpluses and who do you think you are, Orville Freeman or Ezra Taft Benson maybe?

So I'm in front of the TV Thursday night having a beer and humming along with Mitch when she turns it off and says we got to talk about balances of payment and it can't wait for the program to finish. I says what the hell

is balance of payments and she says its money going out of the country and coming in and am I just going to sit there listening to Mitch while the U.S. stock of gold is drained away?

I says she and I ain't got no gold to be drained away and she says ha ha, that's what you think and she opens up this box and pulls out a bracelet and necklace and I says migawd how much did you pay for them? She says four hundred and twenty smackers and I start yelling bloody murder and she says shut up I suppose you would rather see this gold drained away to the Bank of England or one of the Swiss places. I says I got just one question to ask and she says ask not what your country can do for you but what can you do for your country and slams the door on the way to bed.

So couple days later I'm thinking about going fishing

and maybe spending a week of the vacation up in Canada. She says no dice on Canada and I says why not and she looks at me like I'm a dumb cluck and says something about the external flow of funds. I says I don't know what that is but I'm going fishing in Canada and she says you can't spend money in Canada. What we got to do is get people from Canada to come down here and spend money.

I says whose fishing trip is this and who says I can't go to Canada and she says, shut up. I already spent the fishing trip money and I says for what? She says I sent it to Yugoslavia as part of our foreign aid budget and here you want to go upsetting the balance of payment by running off to Canada when the Commies got to be stopped. I says sarcastic like, sure women is smarter than men, but it has been my feeble minded im-

pression that you can't stop the Commies in Yugoslavia because they already own it and how about that, madame president? You can tell she has been reading some books or magazines or papers because she gets a dreamy look in her eye and says who knows when a tiny crack in the Iron Curtain will grow into a gateway to freedom?

Come the first of the month I says to her what about the bills and she says everything is okay and taken care of and I says I am not a nosy man but I happen to be the guy earning this money and how's about me seeing the budget? She says there's no use you looking at it because it ain't on of them cleeshay budgets and you wouldn't understand. I says maybe so but I got a bad feeling we're in the hole what with paying off the building and loan at 98 bucks

a month and keeping our gold away from the Swiss yodelers and not planting vegetables and looking for tiny cracks in the Iron Curtain.

**Raises Debt Ceiling**  
She says I'll betcha never heard of lifting the debt ceiling and I says no and she says well the great United States of America does it all the time and borrows some more money and right now the debt ceiling is 300 umpteen billion dollars if you would like to put that in your pipe and smoke it.

I says thank God you can't get your hands on the withholding or I would have tax trouble with the United States of America and anyway what has 300 umpteen billion dollars got to do with us? She says I went to the building and loan and told the man what Mr. Dillon said to Congress about raising the debt

ceiling and then I says to the man, how about a little raising of the debt ceiling for me and he says why certainly madam, would another thousand be all right and just have your husband sign here.

I says I ain't gonna sign and she says you better if you know what's good for you because you're going to ask for a pay cut and we gotta have a higher debt ceiling. I screams I ain't going to ask for a pay cut and has she gone clear off her rocker and she says calm down, because the government is thinking about cutting taxes to pump some more money into the economy and that's just like the government asking for a pay cut. I says the only thing I'm going to pump is my fist into your kisser and that's the true story of why I let her have it after ten years of matrimony.

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