

Congo Development Needs Estimated To Be \$80 Million

New York (AP)—G. Mennen Williams, assistant secretary of state for African affairs, estimates that \$80 million to \$100 million would be required annually for two or three years in outside aid for economic development in the Congo.

Williams made the statement in an address prepared for a meeting here of the National Conference of the American Organization for Rehabilitation Through Training. He said present U.S. aid to the former Belgian Congo is being given at a rate of about \$61.5 million annually.

Williams welcomed agreement by Israel last month to provide agricultural assistance to the Congo.

'Curtain Has Fallen'

The former Michigan governor also observed that "the curtain has fallen on the first phase of Congo independence."

Williams estimated that 3,000 to 4,000 foreign technicians would be needed in the Congo during the next few years.

He said the Congo's immediate needs were food and repairing damage done during the fighting between United Nations and Katangese forces.

Williams estimated that American food aid to the Congo this year will approach \$30 million.

He said that unless the U. S. Longshoremen's strike is resolved soon "it could adversely affect the well being of thousands of Congolese and, indeed, the delicate balance in that country."

The strike has held up shipments to the Congo, as well as other places around the world.

Vast Assets

Williams said the Congo has vast assets for economic development including 10 per cent of the world's tin reserves. It produces 8 per cent of the world's copper, 60 per cent of the world's cobalt and

65 per cent of the world's industrial diamonds.

It also has rare minerals such as tantalite and germanium, used in advanced electronics. The country has a huge agricultural potential, Williams said, and one of the best natural transportation systems—the Congo river basin.

But he said the Congo would continue to have a serious shortage of foreign exchange, causing financial and budgetary difficulties.

John Tyler who became the 10th President, began the practice of law at the age of 19 and was elected to the Virginia state legislature when he was only 21 years old.

From its source to its junction with the Mississippi, the Missouri river is 2,945 miles long. Their combined length of 4,200 miles is said to exceed that of any other river system.

The beginning of the American school system was in Boston where in 1635 a schoolmaster was employed to give instruction to children who lived in the pioneer settlement.

4-H NEWS

Merry Mulchers

The next meeting of the Merry Mulchers 4-H Garden club will be held Jan. 23 at the home of Mrs. Ed Walters at 4:30 p.m.

At our last meeting Janet Barber called the meeting to order. Then we discussed ways to make money.

Andy Barber gave a demonstration and the meeting was adjourned. Refreshments were served by Mrs. A. B. Pielset. Roger Pielset, Reporter.



Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER
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STATE TAXES SOARING AGAIN

This year state taxes across the land are heading up \$1.5 billion, will take an all-time high \$22 billion from our pockets. This year, social security taxes are heading up \$2 billion-plus, will take a record \$14.6 billion from our incomes. This year, local taxes in tens of thousands of communities are heading up by hundreds of millions, also will hit unparalleled peaks.

This year, unless Congress gives us the substantial across-the-board reduction in our federal income taxes which President Kennedy is urging so strongly, we'll be carrying an even more crushing tax burden than last year or the year before that. This year, unless Congress acts, our tax load which just about everybody now admits is obsolete and in Kennedy's words, "too heavy a drag on private purchasing power, profits and employment," will be even more obsolete, an even heavier drag on our economy.

Congress simply must not overlook what is going on in other areas of taxation in our country as it debates the size, form and timing of federal income tax reduction.

There is no hope for reversing the social security tax hike: it went into effect Jan. 1. There is no hope for avoiding increases in state and local taxes. The states and cities are under constant spending pressures and they cave in constantly to the pressures. Just since the start of the 1950s, state tax collections have more than doubled—gone from \$8.9 billion in 1951 to \$20.6 billion in 1962.

As for 1963, an estimated 90,000 bills will be introduced in the state legislative sessions being held in 47 states, according to the Commerce Clearing House of Chicago. More than 23 per cent will involve taxes; of these, 2,500 will become law—and you can bet your bottom dollar the overwhelming percentage will involve tax hikes, not cuts.

Today, the Tax Foundation of New York released the grim results of a nationwide survey of tax proposals in the states.

Over the years a pattern of major tax legislation in every fourth odd-numbered year has developed. Previous years of significant tax increases were 1951, 1955, 1959—meaning 1963 is "it" again. Last year being an election year, the legislators and governors laid low. Now they're set to vote the tax hikes to offset their skyrocketing spending and mounting budget deficits.

The most fashionable tax slated for passage this year will be the broad-based retail sales tax. Proposals for adopting it as a new tax or for increasing rates or for broadening its base account for \$1.3 billion of the \$1.5 billion tax increase the Tax Foundation foresees.

In prospect in Colorado, Iowa, Missouri, Nevada and Wyoming is a sales tax hiked to 3 per cent. Moves to 4 per cent are to be considered by Connecticut, Georgia, Maine, Ohio, Illinois. A breakthrough to a 4½ per cent rate is believed likely in Pennsylvania. New broad-based sales are scheduled for vote in eight states. There also will be extensive action on selective sales taxes with increases due on taxes imposed on gasoline, cigarettes, alcoholic beverages.

The next most popular device for raking in more state revenue is via personal and corporation income taxes. Nebraska faces a possible new individual income tax at 2½ per cent. Alabama faces the likelihood of a corporation income tax boost to 5 per cent and so does New Jersey. Ohio may enact a new income tax. So this one goes.

The parade fans out far beyond this. In the sphere of levies on users of highways, increased truck license fees may be imposed in Arkansas and Ohio. Measures to change or hike passenger car registration fees are in the offing in Alabama, California, Kansas, New York, Ohio.

Yes, there are a few states where there will be proposals to lighten the load—but these will be rare.

Any hope for relief? Not at this stage. Where do we get relief then? Only from Congress at this point. And now surely the time has come for a most critical examination of spending at every government level. Just as even the strongest individual can crumble under intolerable pressures, so can even the strongest community, state or nation.

Beck's Bakery Offers Something—

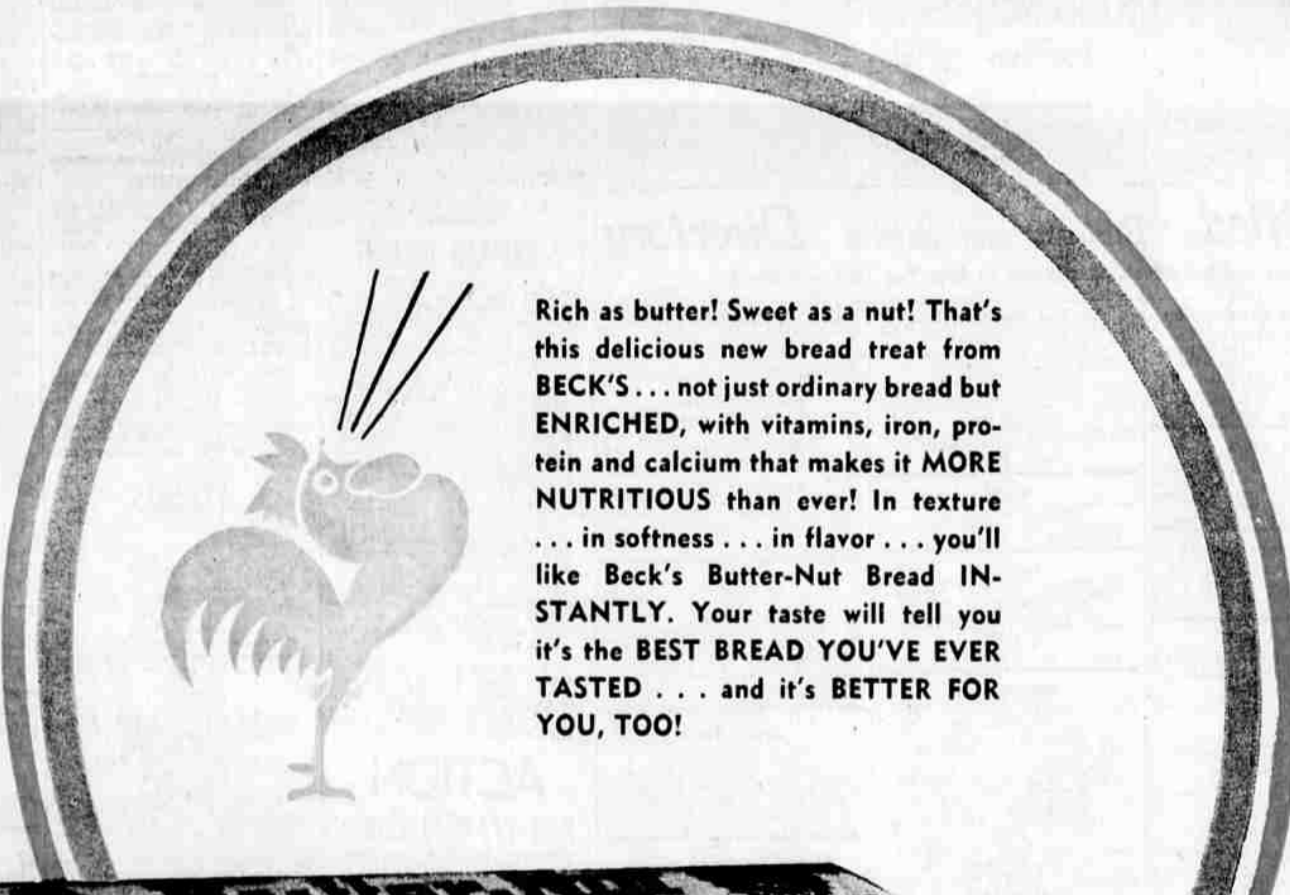
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