

# Big Business of Government Brings Increased Delays in Appropriations

Editor's note: The business of providing money for the government to operate is getting more complicated each year and Congress is falling further and further behind in its work. In the following article, a top legislative reporter explains the situation.

**By FRANK ELEAZER**  
Washington—(UPI)—Government outlays keep rising, and now approach record levels. You might think from this that Congress had turned loose of the purse strings. Actually, the opposite is true. More and more of the members of Congress are demanding a hand in spending your money. It is partly because they have made the check-writing

process such a tough one that Congress is falling further and further behind in its work. In some cases there is reason to think this can actually cost the government — and the taxpayer — extra money. The government's new year — fiscal 1964 they call it — started July 1. But as of today only one of the dozen appropriation bills that are necessary to keep the government running during the year had been passed and sent to the White House. It covers the Treasury and Post Office Departments and amounts to only \$6 billion of the more than \$100 billion required for all the federal functions. The rest of the appropria-

tions bills are in various stages and they will not all have become law for months. Meantime all agencies not funded must make do with a "continuing resolution" that allows them to drag along at a base rate but precludes the start of anything new. This happens, to one degree or another, every year. But over the years it gets worse. One reason is that the government gets bigger and the annual examinations of House and Senate Appropriations Committees get longer. Another considerable factor is that more and more of the other House and Senate committees — the so-called legislative committees — are getting into the act. Every year or so they persuade House and Senate to add something new to the areas in which an annual authorization bill must precede the annual appropriation.

Authorizations are old stuff in Congress, in such fields, for instance, as public works projects. However, since World War II a trend has developed toward requiring yearly authorizations for what formerly were considered normal government functions. All Wrapped Up The armed services committees got a grip first on military construction projects. Later they claimed authorization rights on procurement of planes, missiles and ships. Last year they got Congress to bring into their scope research and development related to planes, missiles and ships. Starting next year, all military research and development will be brought under the authorization tent. The Treasury - Post Office appropriations traditionally has been about the first of the bunch to be passed. Treasury includes the Coast Guard. And the Merchant Marine committees have decided they want a say hereafter in Coast Guard "acquisition and construction" items. Congress this year approved that request. So starting next year Treasury-Post Office may be slowed up along with the rest. There is talk that commerce committees may push through legislation requiring a prior legislative okay on money bills for the public

# Dukedom on Way Down for British

**By ROBERT MUSEL**  
London—(UPI)—Once upon a time every British boy was believed to dream of the day when he would have a title. Now an increasing number of Britons with titles are dreaming of the day when they will be plain "Mister."

For "Mister" is a title that carries with it an opportunity the trend of the times denies the doughty dukes, the belted earls, viscounts, the marquesses and barons. Namely, a chance to be prime minister. The pressure from "reluctant peers" who fear their political careers will be ruined by their being forced to sit in the House of Lords — instead of the House of Commons — is so great that the cabinet has approved legislation that will enable them to assume the status of commoners. The government timetable could make this law by July, which would be a big victory for Anthony Wedgwood Benn who nearly two years ago first pleaded for the right not to inherit his father's title as Viscount Stansgate. **Can Surrender** Under the present government proposals, anyone who inherits a title would have

the right to surrender it for his lifetime. His decision would not affect his heirs. He would then be able to run for the House of Commons in the knowledge that he could not be forced out of it by the fact that he was eligible to sit in the House of Lords — as happened to Wedgwood Benn. No member of the House of Lords has been prime minister since the Marquess of Salisbury in 1895. None is likely to become one again in the foreseeable future. If the proposals become law, Viscount Hallsham, Minister for Science, and the Earl of

Home, who is foreign secretary, could then enter Commons and contend — if they wished — for the office of prime minister. Both would be strong candidates to succeed Prime Minister Harold Macmillan. Of the two, Hallsham is said to be the more eager for the high office. Lord Home probably would have to be "drafted."

**Might Return** The Earl of Sandwich, who was a Conservative member of parliament before he inherited his title, is another who might prefer to return to the House of Commons. Baron Altringham, occasionally a critic of royalty in his writings, is another who plans to run for Commons if the law is changed. Viscount Lambton, a Conservative MP and son of the 78-year-old Earl of Durham, might also be affected. So would Lord Balmoral, another Conservative member who is heir to the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres.



## Small Worlds Around Us

By LYNN M. WATKINS  
(Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1963)

**Amber Is a Mysterious Fossilized Sap of Trees**  
Amber, a rather mysterious substance which is the fossilized sap from trees that lived millions of years ago has some very peculiar characteristics. It has the capability of gaining a negative electrical charge by friction. Rub a piece of amber and it attracts small particles to itself. Reason enough for the Greek word, "electron," meaning electricity. This peculiar action is evidence of an electrical force that man never observed. This peculiar action was originally attributed to the supernatural, and anything made of amber was believed to be of a magical nature. Anything the ancients couldn't understand or explain, was thought to be magical. Amber beads have always been a prized possession. Besides being valuable, they were supposed to bring the wearer continuous good luck, protection against witchcraft, plus a counter-remedy against poisons. Beads of amber are still manufactured, but the principle use today is in the fashioning of mouthpieces for pipes. Genuine amber is pale yellow in color, brittle and translucent. Very often it is found in the sea, especially on the coasts after severe storms. In some parts of the world, men with steel hoops scrape the ocean bottom; the hoops attached to long poles allow the operators to loosen the amber from the submerged rocks. **High Price** Amber usually occurs in irregular masses of rounded nodules, small rods, or plates of various sizes, even up to several pounds in weight. In some regions it is mined from the earth. Usually the mines, or more correctly the pockets, occur near the edge of the ocean. Pieces of amber weighing 10 pounds have been recorded which, of course, would reward the finder handsomely, as the scarcity of the material has always dictated a very high price. An ocean fish, because of its bright, yellow color and a member of the Jack family, has been aptly named, "amberjack." Amber describes a color of pleasing shade; it even has been used in the naming of female children. There are many strange facts pertaining to this substance, especially is this true in the origin of amber and what it was back in the beginning. Early in the speculation as to the real source of amber, scientists noticed that amber often contained the petrified bodies of insects that

crawled, wriggled, or flew millions of years ago. Many of these insects were unlike any insects we know about today. They were of a kind that lived once, long ago and died off. Yet, embedded as they were in amber, they remained in a perfect state of preservation. This indicated that amber was a material solidified into its present form a very long time ago when the world was younger. Further studies revealed the almost unbelievable fact that amber was really the sap, or resinous gum, from some species of pine tree, now extinct, which had been exuded from the plant and solidified into a hard, yellowish material. The mouthpiece of a fine pipe, an ornament or a string of amber beads, is actually a fossil resin that nature created as food for a tree. For some reason the trees were all destroyed, but the resin, or sap which was their life blood, was deposited and fossilized into globules of valuable material we now know as amber.

Authorizations are old stuff in Congress, in such fields, for instance, as public works projects. However, since World War II a trend has developed toward requiring yearly authorizations for what formerly were considered normal government functions. All Wrapped Up The armed services committees got a grip first on military construction projects. Later they claimed authorization rights on procurement of planes, missiles and ships. Last year they got Congress to bring into their scope research and development related to planes, missiles and ships. Starting next year, all military research and development will be brought under the authorization tent. The Treasury - Post Office appropriations traditionally has been about the first of the bunch to be passed. Treasury includes the Coast Guard. And the Merchant Marine committees have decided they want a say hereafter in Coast Guard "acquisition and construction" items. Congress this year approved that request. So starting next year Treasury-Post Office may be slowed up along with the rest. There is talk that commerce committees may push through legislation requiring a prior legislative okay on money bills for the public

**Need vacation money?**  
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**North Bend Youth Dies During Hike**  
Sweet Home—(UPI)—A 12-year-old Boy Scout from North Bend, Sidney Lee Busby, died Saturday night while on an outing in the Cascades. State police said he may have suffered a heart attack. The boy collapsed while hiking near Jorm lake northeast of the Santiam Pass summit. He was with his father, a brother and a group of Scouts from the Coos Bay area. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Arlis Busby of North Bend. An autopsy was scheduled.

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