

# Magnuson Proposes Two Sections for Congress

(Editor's note: The charge frequently is made that Congress handles its money chores in wasteful, slipshod fashion. But not much has been done about it. Now Sen. Warren G. Magnuson believes he has an answer. He wants to split Congress' work year into two parts—one devoted to legislation and one to appropriations. He explains his plan below.)

By SENATOR WARREN G. MAGNUSON  
Written for United Press International

New savings must be found by Congress if mounting international and domestic needs are to be trimmed intelligently to a size which can be met. This means that more attention must be given our Federal budget.

Because Congress may remain in session longer—we don't expect to recess this year until November or December—doesn't mean necessarily that more time is being spent studying budgets. Spending programs take their turn on the priority calendar with the rail crisis, civil rights implementation, and tax cut legislation.

Large individual areas of spending can be seen at a glance. Of this year's projected \$98.8 billion budget, about \$60 billion is for defense, space and international programs. If you also subtract amounts set aside to care for our veterans and service the debt incurred in three active wars and the cold war, then only \$21 billion re-



SEN. WARREN G. MAGNUSON Proposes Two-Part Sessions

mains to cover all other expenses of national government. Actually, what happens with a budget now? Individual agencies have a full year to prepare and marshal facts to support their spending arguments. Only then does Congress get the proposed spending figures. Under the House interpretation of the Constitution, these budgets now have gone to the House and remain there until the House is ready to send them

to the Senate. For example, most of these budgets for 1963-64 haven't been sent to the Senate this year. Even when they arrive in the Senate, all too much time often must be spent comparing House cuts with the original request and what the agency now tells us it needs, and all too little time on further sensible appraisal.

**Still in House**  
An example is the independent office appropriation bill which I handle in the Senate. Twenty-nine agencies are included. That appropriation bill still is in the House. There might be a far different story to tell if Congress had

both additional facts and time with which to sharpen and utilize its potent shears intelligently.

Any time the Senate restores funds for any agency it opens itself to a charge of "encouraging the spenders" even though the House many times has reduced or eliminated items which by law must be paid. Hence the Senate is legally required to restore or add to these items.

Members of Congress, for example, need to know what dollars in a given budget are being invested, what dollars being spent without return.

**Summary of Funds**  
Any corporation gives stockholders a summary of funds invested in plant and facilities as compared with those spent without return.

Not so our Federal government. Thumb through the fiscal 1964 budget. Try to find such comparisons. Nowhere will you find the total capital outlay, with present values, for buildings, or land. Yet these, and many other Federal outlays of the past often have been only loans which have been returned in whole, in part, or sometimes sums beyond the original investment to the Treasury. Try to locate these figures in the 1964 budget.

This showing would be required in any budget, drawn by any administration, under the measure (S.1301) which I have sponsored in the 88th Congress.

We would have an administration tell Congress each year the government's total capital assets and their value at fiscal year's end. There would be a showing made of the amount of sums requested and expenditures which are to be repaid to the treasury.

**Time For Scrutiny**  
Then, more time is needed for scrutiny of any President's

budget than we have now. Now, a President presents his budget in January, after having had almost a year to draw it up. Congress is supposed to consider it, pass it and put it into operation by July 1. During this period, members of Congress have had only a few days at Easter recess to talk with their people about the amounts sought.

This action on the budget—almost one hundred billion dollars this year—is supposed to occur while members are busy on other legislation, meeting crises and ratifying treaties. In other words, our consideration of Federal spending has to be sandwiched in with other necessary duties.

The measure I'm discussing would change that. There would be two sessions of Congress each year. Starting Jan. 1, attention would be given regular legislation, including measures authorizing appropriations to be made. This session would continue as long as necessary, but not beyond the first Monday in November.

**A Fiscal Session**  
Then, the second Monday in November would witness the start of a fiscal session which would last until actual appropriations had been approved, or as late as Dec. 31. Only money matters would be considered.

A change in our fiscal year would be necessary. Instead of observing a fiscal year which starts July 1 and ends on June 30, there would be a change to the calendar year of Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

The President, instead of delivering his budget message in January, would send it to Congress by July 15 each year. Then members could take it

home with them during the congressional recess, discuss it with their voters, assess needs realistically and be ready to give it thorough, painstaking consideration when the fiscal session opened in November.

**Like Main Plan**  
Those with whom I've discussed the plan like it in the main. They agree it makes sense to permit every member of Congress, whether he's on the House or Senate appropriations committee, to devote full time to studying every spending proposal.

He isn't able to do this now without neglecting other committee assignments that are also demanding. Between this and floor action, time is at too much of a premium.

The average member of Congress would like to take more time with the Federal budget. He would like to satisfy himself that every drop of water possible is wrung from the budget.

Our measure would give him more time for the wringing. And it could not help but save a great deal of money.

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## General Education Advised by Glenn For Local Student

What makes a little girl with big brown eyes and a freckled nose and other strictly feminine characteristics want to be an astronaut?

Bobbi Jo Meeker doesn't know. But she wants to be one. That's why she wrote a letter to John H. Glenn Jr., Lt. Col. USMC, NASA astronaut. She got an answer and this is what it said:

"What I am suggesting to you is that you strive for a good, broad, general education; that you remain interested in every subject available to you; that you maintain an intense curiosity in everything you do; and thus be prepared to contribute to whatever field of endeavor best suits your talents."

### Advice on Schooling

The letter said many other things, but this was the advice given in answer to Bobbi Jo's inquiry as to what she should take in school this year to prepare her for her chosen career of astronaut. She is 12 and in the seventh grade at Hedrick Junior High school.

Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Meeker, route 2, box 208X, Medford, say she has always been interested in math and science.

Her younger sisters, Wendy and Julie, have no desire at the present time to explore the moon; and her brother Dan's greatest desire is to make the Wilson school football team.

Extensive literature was forwarded to the Medford girl by Colonel Glenn. Included in the reading, which she plans to do after her "school home work," are "The Manned Lunar Mission" by Robert R. Gilruth and Maxime A. Faget, and "Space Suits" by James V. Corrales and Walter W. Guy.

### Fact Sheet Included

A fact sheet entitled "Project Mercury Astronaut Training"

### CHANGES JOBS

SALEM—(UPI)—Salem City Manager Ken Mathewson resigned his \$17,000 a year position Thursday night to accept a \$42,000 a year job as director of Metropolitan Research Corp. of Detroit, Mich.

Program" also was sent to Bobbi Jo by the famous astronaut, who stated: "This will give you some idea of the requirements placed on the Mercury Astronauts. I have also enclosed some other literature on the space program which may be of interest to you."

Four paragraphs of advice and information were included in the personal letter from Colonel Glenn, who emphasized that "If our progress as a nation is to be as complete as we know it can be we must have many types of talented individuals, not only dedicated scientists," and "it is up to each of us to determine how and where we are going to develop and use these talents."

## \$21,537 Collected For Cancer Fund

Jackson County volunteers have collected \$21,537.44 for the American Cancer society, exceeding their 1963 Crusade goal, Howard Pierce, Crusade chairman of the Jackson County Unit of the American Cancer society, has announced.

The Jackson county goal was \$18,000. Among the activities in this valley financed by the contributions to the American Cancer society are the service and education programs and the local tumor registries, Pierce said.

The scope and impact of the local activities will be topic for the sixth annual dinner meeting, announced for Thursday, Sept. 26, at North's Chuck Wagon.

Dr. Robert Turner, president of the Jackson County Unit of the Cancer Society, will conduct a business meeting followed by a symposium pinpointing two specific cancer sites.

Dr. Brian Stringer and Dr. Richard Schwahn will discuss the diagnoses and treatment of cancer of the cervix and the intestinal tract. Early detection and treatment have resulted in high cure rates where these cancers occur, the local unit has emphasized.

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