

Budget Dodge Ask Double What You Expect To Receive

By HALE SCARBROUGH
Rep. Harris Ellsworth, Republican from the Oregon 4th District, combats over the "wondrous and complicated system" the federal government has of getting its budget ready to send to Congress in his weekly "Letter from Washington."

President Truman a few days ago delivered the budget to Congress, saying in his message that he must have \$5.4 billions of dollars to spend between July 1, 1952, and June 30, 1953. There isn't that much money, of course, but the federal government prints the stuff and by taking it out of one pocket and shoving it into another

ever and over again gets to count it several times while the taxpayers get to count what comes their way only once.

The way budget-making is done, Rep. Ellsworth says, is something like this:

"Each government department or agency has what is generally called its budget officer. This person gathers up the figures which, when totalled, indicate the amount of money needed (or at least wanted) by the department for the coming fiscal year.

"The figures are taken to the head of the department who looks them over and then decides just how much he will request.

"That figure, however, does not go the President—it goes to the Bureau of the Budget. There some bright young men hold what they call hearings at which the departments explain why they need the amounts requested.

"Then the Bureau of the Budget prepares the figures to be submitted to the President and by him to the Congress. He, and his White House staff, are the last word and the suggested budget may be, and often is, changed materially from the way it comes from the Bureau, before it is brought to Congress."

The general scheme, Rep. Ellsworth writes, is to ask the budget officer for about twice what you hope to get. Then the head of the agency will top off 10 or 15 per cent. The Bureau of the Budget will peel off 10 or 15 per cent. The Bureau of the Budget will peel

off another 30 per cent, and Congress, when it finally gets its chance, will knock off maybe 10 per cent. So the particular agency in the long run gets just about what it wanted before entering into this little game.

By having the requests plenty high in the first place, everybody gets to show the taxpayer how solicitous he is of the taxpayer's feelings and pocketbook, by cutting down requests in the sweet name of economy, and the agency for which the money was intended gets what it wanted all along.

Rep. Ellsworth also goes into a situation whereby the French government manages to chisel a profit out of the U.S. government while theoretically paying its own way.

Headquarters of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization—Gen. Eisenhower's outfit) were and are

being built in France, and the French government is supposed to be paying 18 per cent of the cost. However, the French government levies a 20 per cent tax on the cost of construction.

So, instead of the work costing the French 18 per cent, the tax gives them their money back plus a 2 per cent profit.

It's a neat trick if you can pull it, Rep. Ellsworth writes, and France has been pulling it for years.

The way your policy is written means a lot AFTER the fire. Let Hans Norland analyze your problem and write it the way it should be. 627 Pine St.

Pilot Lives Through Crash

FALLON, Nev. (AP)—Lt. William A. Poe, a Marine fighter pilot, survived a crash that broke his Corsair in two on 11,429 foot Sonora Peak.

Poe was rescued from his snowy precipice in the high Sierra of Alpine County, California, Wednesday after a 23-hour wait. Twelve rescuers laboriously snow-shoed 10 miles from the Marines' Pickle Meadow winter training base to reach him.

The temperature plunged as low as 30 degrees below zero. Planes dropped winter equipment and food to Poe.

His plane skidded to within 20 feet of a 4,000 foot precipice when it crashed.

Lt. Col. Donald B. Hubbard, Pickle Meadows commander, radioed: "We fed Poe a steak and he went right to bed." Poe wasn't injured, Hubbard added.

The 12-man rescue team was led by S-Sgt. Robert J. Dewitz of Spokane, Wash., an ex-forest ranger. Poe's commanding officer said planes had crashed at that height before but "nobody lived through it." Poe's parents are Mr. and Mrs. William A. Poe of Vancouver, Wash.

Mines Located In Jap Sea Lanes

TOKYO (AP)—The Japanese Maritime Safety Board said Thursday 17 mines were found this month in the Sea of Japan which separates Japan from Korea and Siberia. All were drifters. They could have come from Communist minefields off North Korea, or they could have been Japanese or American mines from World War II.

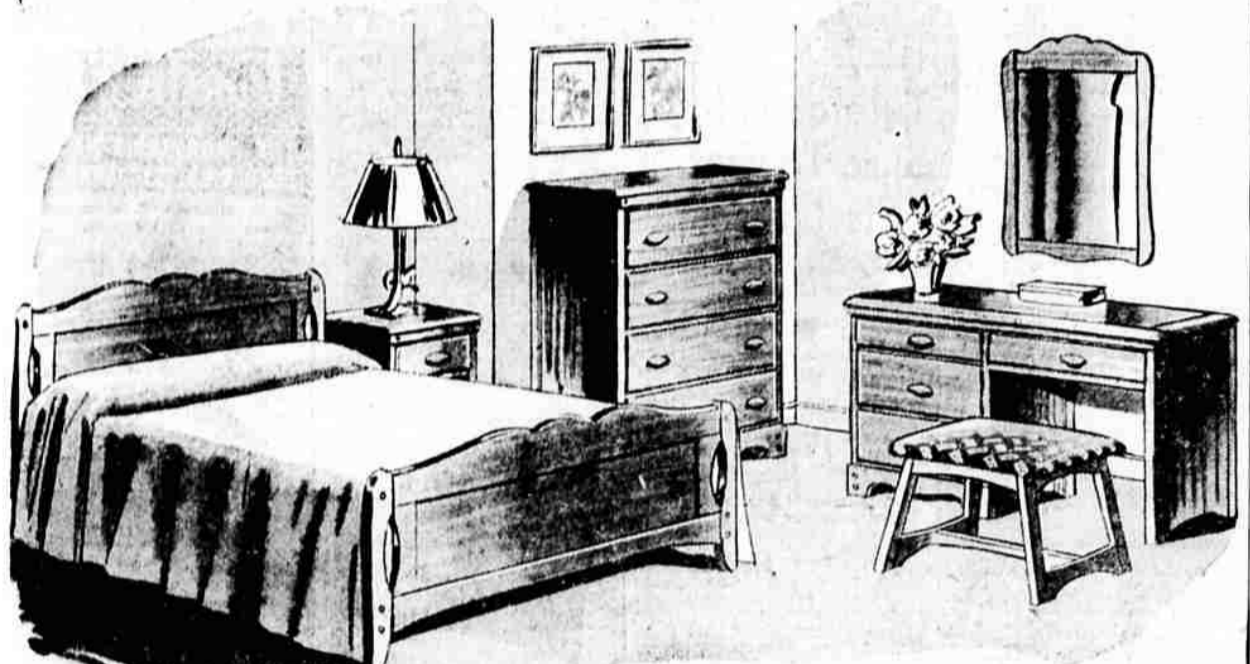
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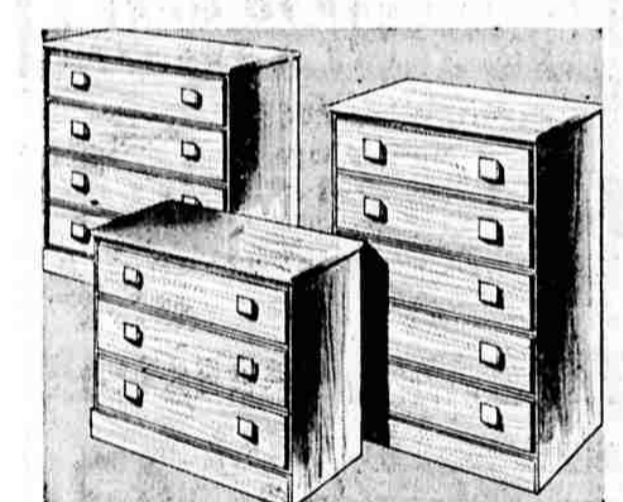


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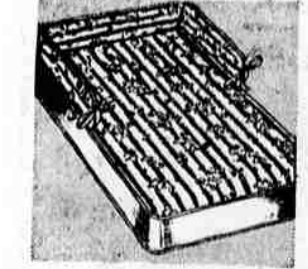


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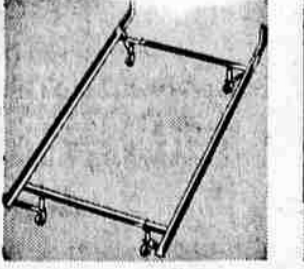
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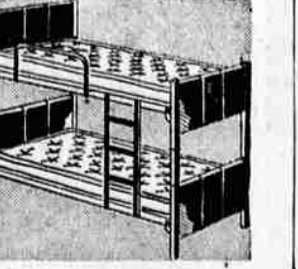
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