

A-B-Cs Of Raising Limit Of Nation's Indebtedness

By SIGRID ARNE

WASHINGTON (AP)—What do Congress and the administration mean when they talk about "increasing the debt limit?"

It is as simple as the arguments that go on when Papa tells Mama she has to hold down spending and quit borrowing.

Washington is like any family. It has an income (taxes) and it has expenses. It can save part of its income, as some families do. It can spend all of it. Or it can spend part of its income and then borrow to cover extra spending.

This last step is what Washington has done most of the time in recent years—spent all it took in and then borrowed to cover further spending.

In Washington Papa has some control, at least. He can put a limit on the amount Mama borrows.

Congress plays the part of Papa in Washington. It puts a limit on how much the federal government can borrow. Right now it says that Mama—the administration—must not borrow beyond 275 billion dollars. Right now the debt stands at about 272½ billions, very close to the ceiling.

The Defense Department, the Veterans Administration, the Agriculture Department and the rest of the executive agencies spend the money. They make commitments—which is like Mama buying dining room furniture on time.

Right now the Defense Department and the Mutual Security Administration are on the cut for time payments for expensive items like tanks, ships, planes, airfields.

Time payments promised by Washington's Mama are now so big that Congress is debating whether it will have to raise the ceiling on what the federal government can borrow. That's what meant by talk about "increasing the debt limit."

Like any papa, Congress has to figure for the next year what income will flow in and what money has to go out to pay expenses.

President Eisenhower's experts have figured that Washington will

take in about 67½ billion dollars in the next 12 months.

Some others think this optimistic, that the total may well be two billion less.

Whatever it is, expenditures will be more. That means the government will need more money. If the borrowing has to go beyond the 2½ billion cushion available presently, it will run into the legal limit.

Suppose, as some experts say, the need will be for 3½ billion more. That's a billion over the limit. Thus, unless the limit is raised, the government will either be borrowing illegally or fail to pay its bills.

After the first of the year, there's no problem. With income tax payments pouring in, there's a surplus of money until after March 15. Some experts think the spending can be held off until then.

New TB Treatment Gives Hope To 'Hopeless Cases'

By SAM CHURCHILL
Yakima Morning Herald

YAKIMA (AP)—A new method of tuberculosis treatment at Central Washington Tuberculosis Hospital, Selah, holds hope of a permanent cure of the disease, even in what have been regarded as hopeless cases.

The treatment has been developed by Dr. A. R. Allen, medical director and superintendent of the hospital. The 24-year-old specialist is cautiously hopeful for the success of the method.

If the treatment does prove up to expectations, it will be a real advance in the long history of treatment of the disease.

So-called "cures" up to now have been mainly of an arrestive nature, with the disease sometimes breaking out again months or years later. Dr. Allen's hope is that he has found a method actually to kill the tuberculosis germs.

An example: Mrs. LaVaughn Smith, 37-year-old mother of Outlook, Wash., stricken with tuberculosis the past 14 years, was released from the hospital July 15 of this year, after 10 months of treatment under the new method.

Dr. Allen said that when Mrs. Smith entered the hospital Sept. 5, 1952, she had pulmonary tuberculosis, tuberculosis of the hip and tuberculosis of the spine. Over the 14-year period she had been treated

in hospitals across the nation, including Washington, D.C.

At present she is home, able to get about with the aid of a crutch. Previous to treatment with Dr. Allen she had been bedridden for three years.

Basis of the treatment is three antibiotic drugs, streptomycin, para-aminosalicylic acid and isonicotinic acid hydrazide. A combination of the three drugs is given patients by means of pills and by injections. Resections are also used where highly infected lung areas endanger the patient. In Mrs. Smith's case a spine fusion was necessary, Dr. Allen said.

"I can't call it a cure as yet," Dr. Allen said, but he added that so far the method has proved effective in treating even hopeless cases of the disease.

"If a person hopelessly ill with tuberculosis can manage to live eight weeks after entering the hospital," said Dr. Allen, "we can almost assure him he will leave the hospital a well man and in a fraction of the time required under former methods of treatment."

The three drugs have been used extensively by specialists in the treatment of tuberculosis the past

two or three years. However, prior to Dr. Allen's experiments, the drugs, so far he knows, have been used singly or in pairs.

Main limitation of this type usage, Dr. Allen said, was that the tubercle bacilli (tubercular germ), tended to build up a resistance to the drug.

A combination of the three drugs apparently delays the resistance-building tendency long enough to enable the drugs to kill the germs. The combination also seems to have less toxic effect on the patient. This permits larger doses to be given resulting in quicker cures.

Carefully compiled case histories of patients treated under the new method, Dr. Allen declared, show that of 125 released, not one has had to be readmitted for more treatment. Readmissions under the older methods averaged about 17 per cent the first year and climbed

to 33 per cent by five years, Dr. Allen said.

Tests at the Central Washington Hospitals have been carried on the past year. Beginning June 1, 1952, all new patients admitted to the institution were given the new treatment. Results at the end of three months were so exceptional that the program was continued and expanded to include patients hospitalized previous to June.

"If the trend of patient improvement continues for the next five years as it is at present," said Dr. Allen, "I will be willing to say

that we have found a permanent cure for tuberculosis."

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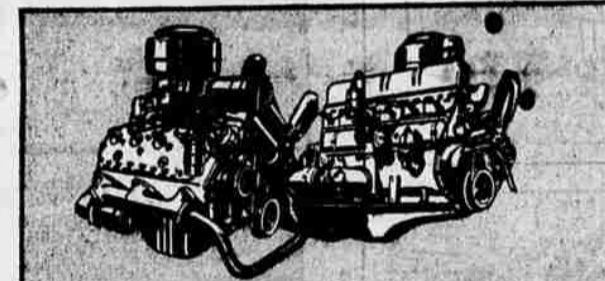
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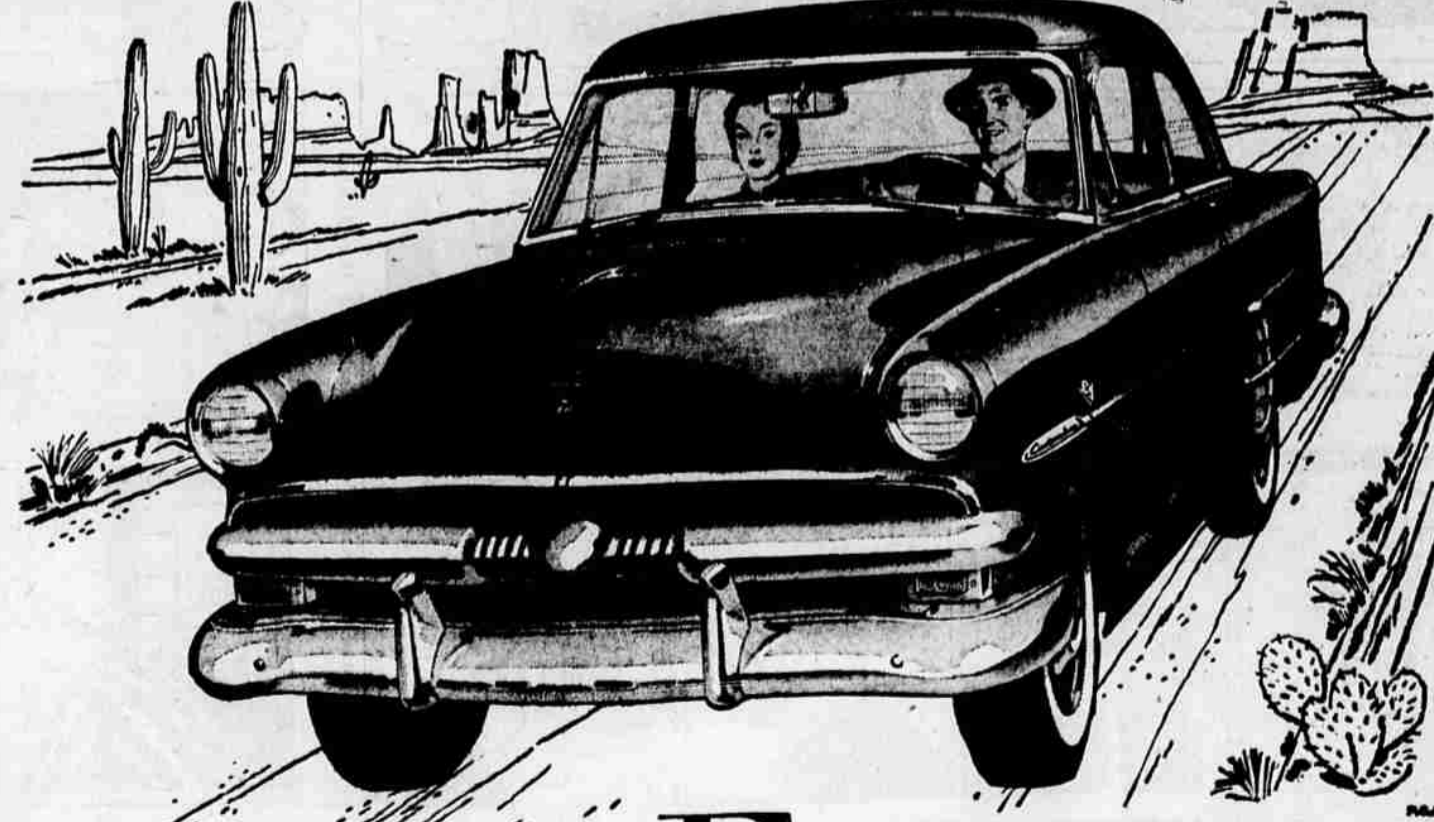
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