

FOR RELEASE April 1, 1954

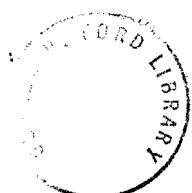
YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

This past week on two successive days your Congressman had the opportunity to see vividly in color the highly secret motion pictures of the horrible destructiveness of our latest atomic and hydrogen weapons and then within 24 hours to hear about the tremendous potential peacetime uses that can follow from nuclear research and development. After viewing the pictures of our most recent super bomb tests I almost wished our scientists had failed to develop such destructive forces even for wartime use but the next day when the possible industrial, non-war benefits were described by responsible engineers my doubts were set aside provided the United States is wise enough to utilize fully non-governmental forces.

How is Michigan's future tied in with atomic energy? Three years ago two Michigan companies, the Dow Chemical Company and the Detroit Edison Company, joined together to study the possibilities of utilizing the heat of nuclear fission for industrial purposes. This project was the first attempt to enter the business of atomic energy with private funds, not supported or subsidized in some way by the federal government. Since this beginning twenty-four companies have become a part of this free enterprise team including four Michigan companies, namely, Bendix Aviation Corporation, Consumers Power Company, Ford Motor Company and Wisconsin-Michigan Power Company.

The major effort of the Dow-Detroit Edison Project is aimed at the development of a breeder reactor because such type of reactor is least wasteful, actually breeding more fuel than it consumes, thus contributing to the United States supply of fissionable material—indeed with great potential of giving the government some independence from necessity of foreign sources of fissionable materials, and having great likelihood of commercial advantage. Studies calculated to keep abreast of other developments of similar nature are being carried on.

The technical development on the project is being reported to the Atomic Energy Commission for governmental use. The results from this private-enterprise program should be of tremendous value to the military and defense forces. This benefit is given to the government by the companies without charge thus saving instead of using tax dollars. The companies now have fifty men and \$2,600,000 employed for this year on the project. If this study is successful it will mean more power, more industries, more employment, more products for Michigan.



For these benefits to be achieved private enterprise must have the assistance of Congress to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1946. When the Atomic Energy Act was first enacted the Congress was charting a course in an entirely new field and the emphasis was rightly on the preservation of atomic development for our national defense. In other words the Congress created a monopoly with Uncle Sam as the monopolist. The last eight years have shown that atomic development can be used ~~aggressively~~ extensively for national health, safety and industrial growth. Consequently it seems highly desirable for Congress to amend the Atomic Energy Act to permit responsible private companies and individuals, under proper safeguards to use their own funds and talents in atomic research and development where mankind will benefit in our day-to-day living.

A most interesting situation was recently pointed out in the President's budget which Ike submitted to the Congress early this year. My subcommittee on Army Appropriations developed the details to a greater extent.

In July 1953 the Korean War fortunately ended. With the ending of this horrible conflict as promised by President Eisenhower the Army immediately re-analyzed its future needs for tanks, ammunition and other military equipment. In the first 8 months of the fiscal year the Army canceled more procurement contracts than it awarded to the extent of approximately \$118 million. From July 1, 1953 to February 28, 1954, eight months, the Army canceled its procurement contracts at such a rapid rate because the immediate need for certain military equipment had changed tremendously. However, the Army in the interim decided it does need new and more potent weapons. Consequently, in the four months beginning March 1, 1954 the Army will award new procurement contracts totalling \$1.5 billion. When you compare the first 8 months where there was a net deficit in contract awards of \$118 million with the next 4 months where the net procurement awards will total \$1.5 billion, one can see the shot in the American economy will get in the months ahead. I'm no long-haired economist or highly paid financial wizard but it seems to me that pumping one and one-half billion dollars into the American economy should have a very favorable reaction plus the fact it will give our Army the newest and finest weapons for our national defense.

VISITORS: Mr. and Mrs. W. Taggart, Jr., Mr and Mrs. Dennis S. Omera, Mr. Henry A. Plaegstra and Mr. James Bounema, all of Grand Rapids.

FOR RELEASE April 8, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

The Congress has passed and the President has signed the bill authorizing the establishment of an Air Force Academy which in time will be comparable to the Army's West Point and the Navy's Annapolis. According to Air Force officials the first class of cadets will enroll in July, 1955.

The method of selecting the first class is as follows. The number of vacancies allocated to each state is proportionate to the total representation in Congress. Michigan on this formula is allocated ten vacancies for the first class. Each Senator and Representative from Michigan may nominate not to exceed ten candidates who will be eligible to compete for these vacancies. Based on competitive examinations, appointments will be made from among qualified candidates in order of merit.

Any young men in Kent and Ottawa counties interested in attending the new Air Force Academy and making the Air Force a lifetime career should write me in Washington without delay.

The law provides that the Air Force will temporarily use existing facilities for the new Academy but that a permanent site will be selected in the near future. The State of Michigan through our Senators and Representatives is actively seeking the establishment of the Air Force Academy within its borders. For many reasons Michigan is a logical location. The final decision rests with a committee appointed by the Secretary of the Air Force.

Too often fabulous discoveries for the benefit of mankind are crowded off the front page by highly controversial but certainly less substantial matters. How many citizens know, for example, that Army medical research has produced a drug called primaquine which actually cures malaria. Testimony before my subcommittee on Army Appropriations indicates "malaria now ceases to be a major military problem." Incidentally in World War II the cost of malaria was measured in terms of nearly one-half million cases and almost 9 million lost man-days.

The new drug, according to an Army medical expert, "is an actual cure. It is more than the old atabrine idea which was just a suppressive of symptoms. It actually clears up the malaria and cures the individual. It is not used as a preventive although I presume it could be."

This should be particularly important to GIs who contracted malaria in World War II. Primaquine will cure old as well as new cases. If there are veterans who want further information on this by all means contact my office in Washington.

The President has approved the excise tax-reduction bill passed by the House and Senate. The estimated annual saving to American taxpayers is \$999 million. This federal tax cut plus the others contemplated will put about \$100--maybe more--in the average taxpayer's pocket this year and each year thereafter. In the past Uncle Sam has been a substantial sharecropper in your pocketbook. President Eisenhower's reform and tax-reduction program is aimed at lifting this burden so that each citizen will have more of his own money to spend for himself and his family. The tax reductions coincide with cut-backs in federal expenditures so the treasury will approximate a balance between receipts and expenditures.

Incidentally to save money the new administration has slashed the number of federal job-holders 128,873 in the first eight months of the current fiscal year.

In 1953 a total of 307 witnesses before Congressional committees took refuge behind the Fifth Amendment; in other words, exercised their prerogative against self-incrimination in their refusal to answer pertinent questions about Communist affiliations and other associations. The number of individuals who used the Fifth Amendment in 1953 was higher than in any previous year. This fact would seem to indicate an accelerated fight by the new administration against the Communist conspiracy. The House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1953 had 144 witnesses who took refuge behind the Fifth Amendment. Out of the overall total of 317 for all Congressional committees the record shows 85 of the witnesses were employed at one time by the federal government.

VISITORS: Miss Carol Holmes, Miss Harriet Mulder, Miss Karen Dawson, Mr. Ed Damson, Mr. Bob Damson, Mr. Clarence Yutema and family, Mr. and Mrs. Willard R. Watson, Miss Betty Watson, all of Holland; Mr. and Mrs. Milton Bornbos, Miss Marguerite S. Kerns, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Van Oosten, Mr. and Mrs. R. deGraff of Grand Rapids, and Mr. and Mrs. Leon J. McVoy of Ada.

For Release April 15, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

The House of Representatives has approved the "anti-traitor" bill which authorizes the government to use in federal courts evidence obtained by wire-tapping in criminal cases involving treason, sedition and other acts endangering the national security. The final House version permits the Attorney General to use wire-tap evidence the FBI and other government agencies already have, but in all future cases the Attorney General would be required to obtain a federal court order before tapping wires of the various subversives who are seeking to undermine the security of the United States.

For many years the FBI and other government investigating agencies have tapped wires in order to keep track of the nefarious activities of foreign agents. However, under several decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court this evidence has not been admissible in federal court proceedings. The bill approved by the House remedies this situation and in effect gives our government another tool, and a mighty good one, in the never-ending struggle against foreign agents, traitors, and subversives.

Do you remember the famous Judith Coplon trial? She was accused and convicted in a lower federal court of violating laws involving the national security. On appeal to the higher courts her conviction was reversed on the ground that certain evidence used in the trial was acquired by wire-tapping. The House bill, since it authorizes the use of all previously acquired wire-tap evidence, will probably result in another Coplon trial. In addition there are other important criminal cases involving treason and espionage where the Attorney General can proceed provided the Senate concurs with the House action. For our nation's security it is vital that such legislation be approved during this session of the Congress..

The House has approved legislation to make Hawaii the 49th State in the Union. The Senate took favorable action on statehood legislation for both Hawaii and Alaska. President Eisenhower has officially and emphatically endorsed statehood for the Hawaiian Islands but apparently doubts the desirability of including Alaska as a state at the present time. The Governor of Alaska recently suggested that the more populated areas in the territory be made a state with the remainder left in territorial status. At a recent press conference the President was asked his reaction to this suggestion and Ike indicated this might be a solution. At the moment it would be hazardous to predict the outcome but there is considerable likelihood that we may have one or more states in the Union before too long. Certainly more progress

has been made on this problem in this Congress than at any time in past history.

It has been made emphatically clear that the U. S. does not intend to recognize Red China. Secretary of State Dulles reiterated that the presence of China at the Geneva Conference does not imply or infer recognition. President Eisenhower flatly stated in his last news conference that our government's attitude toward Red China has not changed.

There has been considerable discussion lately about subversive influences in the Army, Navy, and Air Force. Since May 1949 a total of 590 officers and enlisted men have been discharged from the Armed Services because of questionable loyalty or for security reasons. This is a small number compared to total manpower in all three branches of the service but the existence of one such person in military uniform cannot be tolerated. To eliminate this danger Secretary of Defense Wilson recently set up a new anti-subversive program which will clean out any and all security risks in the Army, Navy, and Air Force. Secretary Wilson should be commended for this emphatic and effective house-cleaning in the Armed Services.

VISITORS

From Holland--

Mr. and Mrs. Willard R. Watson, Betty Watson, Phyllis Hubert, Lee Packard, and George, Sara, and Cherry Copeland.

From Rockford--

Mrs. Willis A. Young and Mrs. Vernon dePuy.

From Grand Rapids--

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Hibbard and John Jr.; Patricia Sligh, Alice M. Dutcher, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Leonard and Mary Ann, Margaret, Kathleen, and Edward Leonard; Mr. and Mrs. Melvin A. Johnson and Margaret Johnson; Herbert Daverman, John A. Vander Ark, Florence Peterson, Ivan Brown, Mary Ann Haan, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Cueny, Mrs. Pat Loomis, and Mrs. Carol Josephson.



FOR RELEASE April 22, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

Your Congressman just concluded two months of committee hearings on the Army appropriations for the next fiscal year and within the past few days the Committee made its final recommendations for reductions in the President's proposed \$8.2 billion budget for the Army. It is a unanimous committee report with the Democrat members supporting the Republican majority in the decreased amounts. The exact reductions cannot be published until April 26th but I can assure you they will be helpful in bringing the President's budget into balance and at the same time the amounts allowed will be sufficient for a strong Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Within several weeks your Congressman will start new Committee hearings on the President's budget requests for foreign aid for our allies. As proposed by President Eisenhower the foreign aid program for next year represents a 42 per cent cutback from what it was two years ago under Mr. Truman. This sizeable drop in foreign aid spending reflects Ike's campaign promise to reduce federal expenditures. It should be added the Congress itself will take a good look at the proposed foreign aid appropriations and it is quite possible, and in fact rather likely, that the House and Senate will make reductions in the funds requested by the White House.

Out of the foreign aid program 72 per cent will be for military assistance to friendly nations that are allied with the United States in the "cold war" against Soviet Russia and its satellites. A major share of the military assistance funds are recommended for tanks, guns, planes, and ammunition in Indo-China where the native forces and the French are locked in a bitter war against the Communists to keep southeast Asia from falling behind the Iron Curtain.

At the moment it would be difficult to predict exactly what the Congress will do with the foreign aid budget but the prevailing sentiment in the House and Senate would lead one to believe that the non-military aspects of the program will have tough sledding. In addition, any allies who drag their feet in the joint anti-communist effort will undoubtedly receive correspondingly less help from the United States. In other words, if some of our allies fail to do their fair share in the common defense of the free world, our nation cannot and should not continue to "pick up the check." It would appear that Secretary of State Dulles has so informed these nations.



Here is some good news about business conditions in the United States. In March 1954 there were more gainfully employed people in this country than in any previous peacetime month. This March there are 60,100,000 persons employed in the United States compared to 57,551,000 in the same month in 1950. In the past few weeks a good many political crepe-hangers, in and out of Congress, have flailed their arms and shouted words of doom, gloom, and despair. Of course, these same prophets of disaster were peculiarly mouse-like in 1950 when unemployment was far greater and the number of gainfully employed was far less than at the present time. When we put the 1954 figures in their proper perspective, one can really see the United States' economy is in good shape, certainly far better off than in 1939 or in 1950.

This past week the House of Representatives approved the Department of Agriculture Appropriation bill and provided funds in conformity with the President's and Secretary Benson's program. The Soil Conservation Service will have sufficient money for good technical assistance for permanent farm conservation. In addition, there will be an expansion of the extension service and the agriculture research programs.

VISITORS:

Miss Marthene Kuieck, Miss Shiela Mulvihill, Miss Je Ann Van Kolken, Miss Ellen Ruff, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ponshair, Mr. James Ponshair, Mrs. Ernest Czelli, Miss Eleanor B. Hawkins, E. Winship Skeen, Mrs. Arnold Skeen, Gordon Skeen, Virginia Lee Daughtrey, William Posthuma, Marcia Zwier, Marilyn Timmerman, Corrine Kass, Marilyn Zwier, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Farmer, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Freeman and James and Betty Freeman, Mr. J. E. Wright, Mrs. M. M. Wright and J. E. Wright, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Tiffany and John and Joseph Tiffany Jr., Mr. and Mrs. C. David Barnes, Steve Barnes, Betsy Commer, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hoven and Miss Ann Hoven, Mr. and Mrs. Silas F. Albert, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Ebert and Bill and Jerry Ebert, all of Grand Rapids; Mr. Gerry Schermer of Zeeland, and Mr. Peter Van Eyck of Holland.

FOR RELEASE April 29, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

In the first session of the 83rd Congress the House and Senate enacted into law 72 per cent of the legislation recommended by the President. In contrast, during his years in office former President Truman had a "batting average" of 42.9 per cent. Comparatively speaking Ike's record in 1953 was excellent. The question is now raised: How well will President Eisenhower do on his legislative proposals this year during the second session of the 83rd Congress?

The President's legislative leaders, and they largely control the legislative schedule in the House and Senate, recently predicted IKE's program for a better America will do as well in the Congress in 1954 as it did in 1953. Here is a summary of the program on which favorable congressional action is contemplated:

1. Annual federal tax savings of some \$7.4 billion through legislation that modernizes our whole tax structure. Almost two-thirds of these tax reductions go to individual tax payers.
2. Expanded and improved Social Security for millions of Americans.
3. A housing plan aimed at low-cost homes built by private enterprise, with extended mortgage payments and low interest rates.
4. A billion dollars of federal support for new highways annually.
5. The St. Lawrence Seaway which is vital for the national defense and the continued economic, agricultural and industrial growth of the middle west, particularly Michigan.
6. More hospitals and better public health facilities.
7. Sound and effective anti-subversive legislation to strengthen U. S. internal security.
8. Equitable revision of the Taft-Hartley Act.
9. Legislation for a healthy and prosperous agriculture.
10. A federal budget which comes ever nearer to balance despite sizeable funds for national defense and long-overdue tax reductions.

The Congress will undoubtedly adjourn on or about July 31st. It is my personal opinion that the bulk of Ike's legislative program, in all probability, will be approved by the House and Senate prior to that date.

For the past three months your Congressman, as Chairman, has been handling the committee hearings on the budget requests for the Department of the Army. Our hearings have been considerably less sensational than others involving the Army. Despite the lack of headlines the committee has accomplished its essential work and done it well.

President Eisenhower in January, 1953 requested \$8.2 billion for the Army for the next fiscal year beginning July 1st. My committee has recommended a total reduction of \$595 million in the budget estimates. With the funds available our Army will be the greatest ever maintained by this nation on a full-year basis in the absence of actual warfare.

For the Army, Navy, and Air Force as a whole the committee has recommended reductions totalling \$1.2 billion out of President Eisenhower's defense budget of \$29.8 billion. Another reduction proposed is a recission of \$500 million in Army procurement funds, mostly for Korea, previously approved for guns, tanks, and vehicles during that conflict. The committee also recaptured for the federal treasury \$550 million in overfunding for the Department of Defense stock funds.

What is America's stake in Indo-China? The loss of Indo-China to the Communists would doom Burma and Thailand, making the conquest of the rest of Southeast Asia inevitable. This would threaten the Philippines and Japan. Our positions in Korea, Okinawa, Formosa, and Hawaii would be endangered. Southeast Asia is the ricebowl of the Far East. It is rich in rubber, cotton, tea, sugar, coffee, and pepper. It has significant deposits of tin, tungsten, zinc, lead, coal, iron, and phosphates. The loss of these resources to the free world and to friendly nations in the Far East, and their acquisition by Communism, would be disastrous to the balance of power in the world. If the Pacific countries and Southeast Asia were lost, 228,000,000 more people would be added to the Communist manpower strength. This would be in addition to the 450,000 Chinese already under Communist control.

VISITORS: Mr. and Mrs. Silas F. Albert, Mrs. Mary Milanowski, Mr. Don Milanowski, Mrs. Josephine Michals, Miss Rita Milanowski, Mr. Roman Snow, and Mr. John A. VanderArk all of Grand Rapids; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Vander Hill and family from Holland, and Mrs. Thomas Daggett of Cedar Springs.



FOR RELEASE May 6, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

The St. Lawrence Seaway moved a big step forward last Thursday when the House Committee on Rules by a vote of 7 to 5 cleared the legislation for the big floor fight which is now scheduled for May 5th and 6th. For over 20 years the St. Lawrence Seaway has theoretically been on the Congressional legislative agenda with little or no affirmative action. The late Senator Arthur Vandenberg was one of the Seaway's most ardent advocates but he was always roadblocked in his efforts by forces that kept this project pigeon-holed. With the determined and effective assistance of President Eisenhower the St. Lawrence Seaway bill passed the Senate early in 1954. Senators Homer Ferguson and Charles Potter from Michigan led the successful fight at the other end of the Capitol and the Michigan delegation will do the same on the House Side.

From all appearances this long and bitter battle can be won in the House of Representatives but the opponents of the Seaway are planning to offer an amendment, which if approved, will in effect scuttle the project. There are always two methods to defeat legislation. One is the direct approach where the opponents simply have the votes to win on a roll-call. The other is by an amendment which indirectly sabotages the basic legislative objective.

The opponents of the Seaway will certainly resort to both methods but their best chance of success lies in an amendment to be sponsored by Representative Brownson of Indiana. On the surface the so-called Brownson amendment is harmless, in fact as depicted by its sponsors it is highly desirable. In reality the approval of the Brownson amendment would likely tie up the Seaway in lengthy and involved court litigation to such an extent that Canada would proceed on its own to construct the project. President Eisenhower and all other proponents of the St. Lawrence Seaway are unified against the Brownson amendment and on Thursday the House of Representatives will make the final decision. Your Congressman plans to be in the forefront of the fight against any hamstringing devices which will handicap the initiation of immediate construction of this project which is so vital to the continued economic growth and prosperity of the State of Michigan, the Middle West, and the nation as a whole.

A few days ago Secretary of Agriculture Bensen announced a program to facilitate the sale in approved friendly countries of United-States-produced butter or butterfat recombined with domestic-produced nonfat dry milk solids for conversion into liquid mild. This is another forward-looking step by Secretary Bensen to

provide outlets for government-owned dairy products. The program will encourage the use of milk in various parts of the free world where milk is in short supply and to which the shipment of whole milk would not be feasible. The Agriculture Department will offer butter from its surplus stocks for sale on a competitive-bid basis. Butter so purchased may be exported, or may be marketed in domestic trade channels provided an equivalent quantity of U.S.-produced butterfat is exported for recombination use. This program along with others will help to alleviate the dairy situation.

Several weeks ago following the death of Senator Dwight Griswold, the Governor of Nebraska, appointed Mrs. Eva Bowring to fill the unexpired term. Mrs. Bowring is the second lady now serving in the Senate, both Republicans. She joins Mrs. Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, who is completing her first 6-year term.

Mrs. Bowring, who owns and personally operates a ranch in Nebraska, has been extremely active in civic and political affairs. When asked how soon she would be sworn in as the new Senator, Mrs. Bowring replied, ""As soon as I can kiss my cows goodbye."

VISITORS:

Sister M. Aquin, O. P., Sister M. Blanche, O. P., Sister Mary Bride, O. P., Mrs. Edward J. Frey and Dave Frey, Dr. and Mrs. E. W. Schnoor, all of Grand Rapids; Jim Sinke, Arthur D. Wheeler, Vernon Verplank, Mayor Claude VerDuin, Louis H. Breitels, J. F. Ledusky, Bart Singerling, Jake Toxopeus, P. Murdick, Anne Ronda, G. Haven; Mr. and Mrs. Neal VanLeeuwen of Spring Lake, Ted R. and Donald J. Smith of Grandville.

FOR RELEASE May 13, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

In all likelihood by the time this report is printed and read President Eisenhower will have signed the legislation authorizing United States participation in the long-delayed St. Lawrence Seaway project. The entire nation will derive immeasurable benefits from the Seaway but Michigan will be one of the principal beneficiaries.

Construction on the locks, dams, and channel will undoubtedly start this fall and the job will be completed within five years. It will be an historical event in our State when the first deep draft ocean-going vessel loads up with Michigan industrial and agricultural products and commodities for shipment to ports all over the world.

The St. Lawrence Seaway until May 1954 has been stymied in the Congress for over 35 years. It took the forceful leadership of President Eisenhower and his administration leaders in the House and Senate to crack this legislative roadblock. On the final vote in the House, 145 Republicans and 95 Democrats favored the St. Lawrence Seaway.

It should be pointed out that the Seaway will be a completely self-liquidating project. Tolls will be charged those vessels that use the 27-foot navigation channel and the funds collected from the tolls will pay off the entire cost of construction plus the interest charges and the maintenance and operation expenses. The money our government puts in this joint American-Canadian project is a sound business investment which will pay big dividends for the nation. In conclusion it should be pointed out that our top military leaders were of the firm conviction that the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway was absolutely vital for the effective defense of the North American continent.

On May 5th in Washington, D. C., Dr. L. G. Kortenhorst, Chairman, Second Chamber of the States General of the Netherlands, representing the people of the Netherlands and the Dutch government presented a 49-bell carillon, known as Bells for America, to all the citizens of the United States. Speaker Joseph Martin of our House of Representatives, gratefully received this magnificent gift and in his acceptance remarks made this apropos comment:

"When we consider the motives which prompted the Netherlands people to

make us the gift of this carillon, we understand more readily why one of these bells is dedicated to peace. While I would not want in any way to detract from the harmony of the bells, which is the secret of the perfection of this carillon, I do hope that it will be the sound of this bell of peace which will ring the loudest."

Dr. Kortenhorst pointed out that May 5th was significant for on that day in 1945, nine years before, American flying-fortresses dropped food and medicine to Netherlands cities and villages where 3½ million people were then suffering from hunger, weakness, and illness. To show their gratitude for this aid and for our post-war help the people of the Netherlands sent to America this carillon, one of 300 in the whole world, and each of the 49 bells is representative of a particular group of the Dutch community or of that part of Netherlands territory which donated it.

The carillon is temporarily set up near the Lincoln Memorial but shortly a permanent tower will be constructed across the Potomac River adjacent to the Arlington Cemetery. The tower and bells will be a constant reminder of the joint sacrifices and aspirations of these two freedom-loving nations.

In recent weeks many letters have been received asking what the Congress has done or will do about changes in the Taft-Hartley Act. Early this year President Eisenhower submitted to the House and Senate his specific recommendations for revision in existing labor-management legislation. Two Congressional committees have completed long and extensive hearings on this important legislative matter. The Senate as a whole brought up the legislation first and on Friday, May 7th after a week of debate sent the bill back to committee by a vote of 50 to 42. On this issue the Democrats voted solidly against any changes in Taft-Hartley and were joined by 3 Republicans. The 42 Republicans supported President Eisenhower in an effort to make fair and reasonable changes in the Taft-Hartley Act. On the basis of the Senate action on this bill it is difficult to forecast what steps will now be taken by the House of Representatives on this part of the President's program.

VISITORS: Mrs. John A. Vary and children, Beth, Jim and Mark, Mr. R. W. Bullock, Mr. Sydney P. Harris, Miss Marian German, Miss Maxine E. Fuson, Mr. G. S. Carbonneau, Mr. Harry Jennings, Mr. Samuel T. J. Grammona, all of Grand Rapids; Mr. N. E. Borgeson of Lowell, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Marks of Kalamazoo, and District Attorney Wendell Miles.



FOR RELEASE May 20, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

The Senate Committee on Finance, after receiving the testimony of over 200 individuals and organizations is now in the process of drafting its provisions of the Eisenhower tax revision bill. Forecasters predict the final version of this important legislation will have Congressional approval by June 15th.

The President's tax revision and reduction program is the first attempt in over 50 years to modernize and simplify the entire federal tax structure. It has two aims: 1. To lessen tax inequities for millions of individual taxpayers; and, 2. To encourage small business to stimulate production, and to create more jobs by encouraging initiative and investment.

Here are a few specific provisions to indicate how millions of Americans with varying incomes will benefit. By allowing a child as a dependent even if the boy or girl earns more than \$600, over 1,300,000 taxpayers will get a long-overdue benefit. By making the first \$1,200.00 of retirement income non-taxable, more than 1,500,000 taxpayers such as retired teachers, firemen, policemen and others will get a deserved break on their income taxes. By allowing larger deductions for medical expenses, over 8,500,000 citizens will find their federal taxes reduced. By authorizing more liberal deduction of interest under installment-purchase contracts, it is estimated a 1,600,000 taxpayers will benefit. By a more liberal allowance for soil-conservation expenses and investment, 500,000 American farmers will derive definite tax savings.

When Congress winds up this session it will have reduced federal taxes by approximately \$7.4 billion annually with a vast majority of the savings accruing to individual taxpayers. These tax cuts have only been justified because the Eisenhower administration has substantially reduced federal expenditures in the first 17 months of its stewardship of our government.

On May 25th your Congressman is scheduled to appear on "Town Hall Meeting of the Air," a nation-wide radio program, with Senator George Smathers, Democrat of Florida. The subject of our debate--"Which Way for Industry--North or South." The program will be broadcast over the ABC network.

This past week sizeable delegations from Hawaii and Alaska have been in Washington pleading their case for statehood for both territories. In 1953 the House of Representatives approved a bill granting statehood for Hawaii and early



this year the Senate okayed a joint bill to make Alaska and Hawaii the 49th and 50th states in the Union. The matter is now before the House Committee on Rules where a hearing is scheduled on May 19th.

The delegation used a new gimmick in their campaign to sell the Congress on statehood. The day the Alaskan group arrived in Washington the House restaurant was presented with an ample supply of fresh Alaska king crab which had been caught off Kodiak Island just a few days before. It was a mighty tasty dish and I appreciated their generosity no end, but this new lobbying technique wasn't necessary as far as I was concerned for I have always favored statehood for both Alaska and Hawaii.

The signing by President Eisenhower of the new Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1954 starts the Bureau of Public Roads on the largest highway-construction program on record. The law provides that each year the federal government can apportion to the various states \$875 million. This new and better road-construction program will materially strengthen our national highway system, reduce traffic congestion, strengthen national defense, expand research on road improvement and increase the comfort, convenience and safety of the users of the nation's 56 million motor vehicles. The increase in funds of \$300 million per year is greater than the whole of the regular Federal-Aid authorization in any prewar year. In addition to greater availability of funds the new law simplifies administrative procedures thereby lowering costs and cutting down on bureaucratic red tape.

The Small Business Administration has just announced the publication of a long-needed Government Purchasing Directory. The booklet lists 4,000 classes of commodities and clearly indicates where and what is bought in the vast network of government procurement offices. This publication will definitely aid and assist the small businessman who heretofore has been at a loss to know where to start when he wanted to sell his products to Uncle Sam.

VISITORS: Mrs. Marion C. Steketee, Mr. Frank J. Lucas, Mrs. Erma Noble and Mr. Charles J. Lazio, all of Grand Rapids. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer Jacobs of Grand Haven.

FOR RELEASE May 27, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

Senator Homer Ferguson in February, 1954, introduced a Senate resolution (officially titled Senate Joint Resolution 126) to add the words "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The Senate as a whole has approved Senator Ferguson's resolution and the House of Representatives will undoubtedly concur very shortly. When the Congress gives its final approval to this resolution the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag will remain unchanged except for the addition of the two words "under God."

At the time Senator Ferguson submitted this resolution to the Congress he made the following significant comments:

"I believe this modification of the pledge is important because it highlights one of the real fundamental differences between the free world and the Communist world, namely, belief in God.

"Our Nation is founded on a fundamental belief in God, and the first and most important reason for the existence of our Government is to protect the God-given rights of our citizens.

"Communism, on the contrary, rejects the very existence of God.

"Spiritual values are every bit as important to the defense and safety of our Nation as are military and economic values.

"America must be defended by the spiritual values which exist in the hearts and souls of the American people. Our Country cannot be defended by ships, planes, and guns alone."

The concluding statements on the floor of the Senate by Senator Ferguson were equally appropriate.

"In fact, we have an infinite lead over the Communists, in terms of our spiritual and moral values because of our firm belief in God, and because of the spiritual bankruptcy of the Communists.

"Indeed, over one of the doorways of this very Chamber inscribed in the marble are the words 'In God we trust.'

"Unless those words amount to more than a carving in stone, our Country will never be able to defend itself. Those words must have a very real meaning in the heart of every American.

"The joint resolution I have introduced will give additional meaning to the spiritual defense of our Nation."



Your Congressman certainly endorses and supports the Joint Resolution initially sponsored by Michigan's senior Senator.

A few days ago President Eisenhower invited a small group of Congressmen to the White House for breakfast. It was my privilege along with Vice President Nixon to be among the guests. Attendance was somewhat of a problem. The night before the White House breakfast I had two speeches in Grand Rapids. After the last speech a friend drove me the 140 miles to the Detroit Airport where I caught a 2:30 a.m. plane to Washington which arrived at six in the morning. Following a quick change of clothes at our apartment with the family just awakening, I hurried to the White House for the 7:45 a.m. breakfast with Ike, the Vice President and my House colleagues. With only two hours' sleep, and that on the plane, I must admit I did more listening than talking as we enjoyed eggs and bacon in one of the White House dining rooms.

The President was most anxious to hear the comments and suggestions from the House members who were his guests. Most of the discussion revolved around the situation in Indo China, the President's legislative program and the Army-McCarthy hearings. As always, this close-up contact with President Eisenhower was a great inspiration. He is most sincere, always constructive, very fair, completely honest and frank, and above all, dedicated to the best interest of the United States and all its citizens.

A year or so ago the House Committee on Un-American Activities published a report entitled "100 Things You Should Know About Communism." It is an excellent document and well worth reading. I have a few copies available for distribution. Drop me a line and you will receive a copy of this excellent information booklet on the Communist Party and its diabolical conspiracy against the United States.

The Senate recently passed by the required two-thirds vote a constitutional amendment designed primarily to prevent Supreme Court packing. The amendment would set the membership of the Supreme Court permanently at nine, prohibit lifetime federal judges serving beyond their 75th year and confirm the Supreme Court's appellate jurisdiction over constitutional questions. If the proposed change in the Constitution clears the House Committee on the Judiciary, prospects are excellent for concurrence by the House as a whole. The amendment then goes to each state for action.

FOR RELEASE. June 3, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

After extensive hearings followed by detailed analysis of the various proposals, the House Committee on Ways and Means has brought forth its bill for the expansion and improvement of the Social Security Act. The Committee's action carries out another campaign promise made by President Eisenhower that our older citizens need better protection in their later years.

The Committee voted to increase minimum and maximum monthly social security payments. In addition under the proposed changes everybody, that is all employed persons, would be covered except doctors, policemen and firemen. The Committee found in the public hearings that the majority in these three groups were opposed to being included in the Social Security program. A change has been recommended in the law so that retired persons can earn more than \$75 per month and still not lose the social security benefits. Under the bill a person receiving social security benefits can earn up to \$1,000 annually and still be eligible for the monthly retirement payments. The committee also included a new and important provision which will greatly aid those who are permanently disabled.

The bill is scheduled for action by the House of Representatives on Tuesday, June 1st and will undoubtedly be approved overwhelmingly. The Senate will certainly concur. Approval of this legislation will be another major accomplishment of the 83rd Congress.

Lately there has been a good bit of loose talk about which political party, Republican or Democrat, has been supporting President Eisenhower's legislative program in the Congress. The unvarnished record shows that Republicans supported Ike 74 per cent while the Democrat average was only 39 per cent. On two specific test votes in the Senate on proposed changes in Taft-Hartley and the 18-year-old right-to-vote constitutional amendment, the Democrats were solely responsible for defeating Ike's program. When Congress adjourns about August 1st a final analysis can be made but from the evidence to date it appears that President Eisenhower is getting practically all of his support from his own party and mighty little from the opposition.

On Friday, May 28th, the Congress in a joint session had a most distinguished guest, Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia. As I listened to his speech



to the members of the House and Senate I recalled Ethiopia's plea for help to the League of Nations 18 years ago when Mussolini invaded this small African nation. Many contend today that if the now defunct League of Nations had responded to Haile Selassie's plea and had taken collective action against Mussolini's aggression in 1935, World War II might have been averted. Despite his advancing years the bearded Emperor, dressed in full military uniform adorned with rows of ribbons, is most impressive.

The federal government under President Eisenhower is making substantial progress in straightening out its fiscal affairs. For the past two months Uncle Sam has operated in the "black" primarily because of lower expenditures. In March the budget surplus amounted to \$5.8 billion which is a \$1.4 billion higher than the surplus a year ago. The February surplus was \$737 million in contrast to the deficit of \$493 million in February 1953. These surpluses, which result from the continued downtrend in federal government spending, have produced a lower accumulated deficit for the year to date, as compared with a year ago. This reduction in spending by Uncle Sam has been reflected in the decreasing total of government civilian employees. March, 1954 was the 20th consecutive month in which net reductions in the number of such employees were reported. Between January, 1953 when President Eisenhower became Chief Executive and March 1954, there has been a net cutback of 214,278 federal civilian employees. This amounts to a tax saving of approximately a billion dollars annually.

The Department of Agriculture in order to increase grain-storage facilities, particularly on farms, has prepared a fine publication entitled, "You can Store Grain Safely on the Farm." The pamphlet, which is designed to assist the farmer who contemplates storage of his grain harvest on the farm, can be obtained by writing my office in Washington. The publication contains excellent information on proper moisture content of grain in storage, requirements for a safe storage structure and other pertinent data.

VISITORS: Olga Hanewich, Mr. and Mrs. Robert DeFree, James F. Evans, C. A. Frost, Harry K. Johnson, Elva Johnson, Roman J. Kaminski, Walter F. Kaminski, Nell H. Dykstra, Catherine Vanderveen, Alfred Nedendorp, Mr. George J. Hardy, all of Grand Rapids; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Swartz, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fisher of Grand Haven, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd DeKock, Zeeland, L. A. Young, Rockford, Robert R. Liun, Holland, and Wm. S. Doyle of Lowell.

FOR RELEASE June 10, 1954

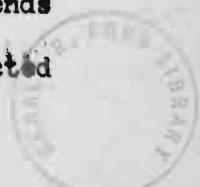
YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

Several days ago the House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved substantial changes in the existing Social Security Act. The House bill will expand the coverage by about 10 million, increase the monthly benefits to present and future beneficiaries, and in other ways make the program better in many respects. The bill now goes to the Senate for action and all predictions are that the "Upper Body" will move rapidly to approve the legislation which is a vital part of President Eisenhower's constructive program. Your Congressman supported this bill which definitely improves the Social Security Act. It must be admitted that all inequities in the existing law were not removed but substantial progress has been accomplished in eliminating many discriminatory situations.

Last week in the column I mentioned that Republican members of the Congress voted "with" the President 74 per cent of the time in 1954 through May 18, compared to a 39 per cent score for the Democrats. According to Congressional Quarterly your Congressman in 1954 has voted with "Ike" 91 per cent on the various roll calls. This year so far I opposed only one Eisenhower proposal, his request for a continuation and expansion of the subsidized low-rent public housing program. In 1953 during the first session of the 83rd Congress my Eisenhower batting average was 94 per cent. I "liked Ike" in 1952 and I firmly believe in his sound and constructive approach to the problems the nation faces but on an occasional issue I reserve the right to disagree.

The perennial Washington guessing game is now in process as to when Congress will adjourn. Republican leaders forecast the House and Senate will "close up shop" by August 1st but Senator Lyndon Johnson, Democrat floor leader in the Senate, predicts Congress will be lucky if adjournment comes before August 15th. Actually the precise date of adjournment is unimportant. It is far more vital for the Congress to stay on the job until every effort is made to act favorably on the legislative program proposed by the President which is essential to the prosperity and security of the nation.

The Congress has passed and President Eisenhower signed a bill which extends the deadline for filing certain prisoner-of-war claims. The 83rd Congress enacted



legislation providing additional compensation of \$1.50 per day for each day members of the Armed Forces of the United States were subjected to forced labor or inhumane treatment during World War II. The new law extends the time for filing P. W. claims from April 9, 1953 to August 1, 1954. The necessary forms for filing claims can be obtained from the War Claims Commission, Washington 25, D. C.

The recent decision of the United States Supreme Court ending segregation in all public schools focuses attention on what has been accomplished by the Eisenhower Administration in the field of civil rights. Here's the record. 1. Segregation at Army post schools has been abolished. 2. Employment discrimination in the District of Columbia service contracts and segregation in public eating places has been ended. 3. Segregation stopped at Navy installations in the South. 4. Racial discrimination banned on Federal job contracts. 5. Segregation ended in major veterans' hospitals below the Mason-Dixon line. 6. Segregation abolished in District of Columbia public recreation facilities the day following the Supreme Court decision. 7. Forty-five Negroes have been appointed on the basis of their qualifications to high government positions by the Republican Administration.

The record of "Ike" and the G. O. P. on this fundamental issue indicates substantial and constructive success. The Supreme Court decision was morally and constitutionally right and the transition from separate negro-white school systems to non-segregation can be accomplished without incident if the extremists on both sides will "hold their tongues" and let the moderates implement the Court's decision. No longer can the Communists holler and scream that the United States legalizes racial discrimination in our public school systems.

VISITORS: Mr. and Mrs. A. Boon, Grand Haven; Mr. Jacob Van't Hof, Mr. George Hardy, Mr. W. Muller, Mr. A. G. VandenBerge, and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Pruis, all of Grand Rapids; Mr. W. A. Young of Rockford, Mr. Robert R. Linn of Holland, and Mr. W. S. Doyle of Lowell.

FOR RELEASE June 17, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW
By Gerald R. Ford, Jr., M. C.

All of us undoubtedly contribute hard-earned cash to the many civic campaigns for polio, cancer, multiple sclerosis and the like. Each year a good many million dollars are raised nationwide by voluntary contributions to fight these dread diseases. At the same time the federal government spends vast sums each year in medical research to prevent or cure such diseases.

In the current fiscal year your federal government through the National Institute of Health will spend slightly over \$71 million for medical research on cancer, mental health, heart, dental health, arthritis, metabolic, microbiology, neurology, and blindness disease activities. The House of Representatives on the recommendations of my committee increased the funds for such research approximately \$6 million for the next fiscal year, making the total funds available over \$77 million in the next 12 months.

The Committee on Appropriations in its report justifying the proposed expenditures had this to say:

"A concrete example of what really great discoveries may be in the offing has apparently been produced by the Neurology and Blindness Institute. The committee was told by Dr. Bailey, Director of that Institute, of the discovery of a substance called glutamine, which has been used with such success in the treatment of ten very serious cases of epilepsy, that he believes it to have more promise for effectiveness than did streptomycin for the treatment of tuberculosis and ACTH and cortisone for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. It was stated to the committee, by one authority in this field, that if this one discovery proved as effective as preliminary tests indicate it to be, it will, just from a financial point of view, be worth more to the nation than the entire cost of all the National Institutes since their beginning."

President Eisenhower recently set forth what his Administration in 16 months has accomplished in dealing with subversives. The record shows that Ike's Department of Justice, the FBI, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service have (1) Arrested 7 Connecticut leaders of the Communist Party. (2) Convicted 41 Communist Party leaders—13 in New York City, 7 in Honolulu, 5 in Pittsburgh, 5 in Seattle, 6 in Detroit, and 5 in St. Louis. (3) Indicted 20 additional Communist

leaders, including 9 now on trial in Philadelphia and 11 soon to be tried in Cleveland. (4) Ordered the addition of 62 new organizations to the Department of Justice's list of subversive groups, making a total of 255. (5) Secured the conviction of one person for treason, and 2 for espionage. Eight others have been convicted for making false statements to the government--3 have been convicted for perjury. (6) Deported 84 alien subversives. (7) Issued orders for deportation of 268 persons with records of subversive activity or affiliation. (8) Started denaturalization proceedings against 24 naturalized citizens charged with being subversives. (9) Barred entry into this country of 127 subversive aliens who had arrived at ports of entry.

The constant surveillance of Communists in this country is a 24-hour, 7-days-a week, 52-weeks-a-year job. It requires the full and complete cooperation of all our loyal citizens plus the united effort of the FBI, the Attorney General, and appropriate Congressional committees.

The House and Senate have approved legislation terminating federal supervision of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin over the next five years. Tribal representatives strongly favored this legislation which when signed by President Eisenhower authorizes the Menominees to be the first Indian tribe to be freed of federal supervision. Many remaining Indian tribes still need helpful and constructive federal guidance but the excellent record of the Menominees in managing their own affairs certainly warranted liberation from perpetual supervision.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in the past 16 months has eliminated a total of 238 security risks. Secretary Oveta Culp Hobby informed the House Committee on Appropriations that her department has a special 35-man office of internal security which carefully screens the records of its government employees. In the group of 238, there were 114 suspected subversives. The 124 non-subversives were ousted on charges ranging from immorality to untrustworthiness.

VISITORS: Mr. Fred R. Allaben, Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Gezon, Mr. James Klaase, Mr. Ralph H. Neely, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Selby, and Mr. James H. Lee, all of Grand Rapids; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lambers, Mr. and Mrs. LaVerne Dykstra, Virginia Boeve, and Mae Naber of Holland.

For release + June 25, 1954

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW

BY Gerald R. Ford, Jr.

The shipment of guns and ammunition to Guatemala by Communist dominated Poland has alerted our citizens to the Soviet threat in Central America. One of my good friends in the Congress, Representative Pat Hillings of California, just returned to Washington, following a special Congressional investigation of conditions in Guatemala, and made the following report in his weekly newsletter to his constituents -

"Communism in Western Hemisphere - Recently I made a special trip to Central America as a member of the Committee on Communist aggression in order to prepare a preliminary report on Communist penetration of the western hemisphere. My trip took me to Red-dominated Guatemala and other countries. I can state in most positive terms that the Communist danger in Central America is very real and very serious. The same pattern of Communist aggression and infiltration is being followed in Central America today which has been followed by the Soviet-directed Communist conspiracy in other countries - 15 of which are now behind the Iron Curtain. It appears that the Republic of Honduras is the next target of the Reds and already Communist agitators are hard at work in that area. The Soviet embassy and the Czech legation in Mexico City appear to be centers of direction for the Red movement in Latin America. From time to time, so-called "commercial attachés" from Soviet and Red satellite missions visit other countries, apparently to give instruction and direction to Communist leaders. It is apparent that the Kremlin has a real foothold in America's own backyard. It intends to cause trouble for America and other anti-Communist nations of this hemisphere, and it poses a definite threat to the Panama Canal.

"Guatemala today is a police state. The Communist party, while small in numbers, actually dominates the government. Constitutional guarantees of civil rights have been suspended and anti-Communists are regularly jailed or exiled from the country. Heavy restrictions have been placed on the entry into Guatemala of clergymen of all faiths in an apparent effort to gradually destroy freedom of religion. While in Guatemala I noted that policemen had been placed in front of the embassies and legations of most anti-Communist countries in order to intercept Guatemalan refugees who might wish to seek political asylum by entering the residences of foreign diplomats. The government has begun Marxist teaching in public schools and efforts are already underway to nationalize industry.

Property of landowners has been seized in large amounts and divided up under an agrarian reform program. Actually the government still retains title to all the land it seizes and subdivides and only allows the citizens who obtain land from the government to hold it temporarily.

"Recently the Communist government of Guatemala received more than \$10 million worth of guns and ammunition from Communist Poland. It took a train 3/4 of a mile long to transport this material from Puerto Barrios to Guatemala City. It now appears that some of these arms, which are far in excess of the need of the Guatemalan army, will be used to build a "people's army" along Communist lines. There are also reports that some of these guns and ammunition are being secretly transported into neighboring countries where the material is hidden by Red agitators for possible future use. Communist labor leaders in Honduras, for example, are leading a strike of agricultural workers which has tied up a portion of that country for many weeks, and which is being used in an attempt to embarrass and cause great difficulty to that government with the hope that the Communists will eventually force the election of a more friendly regime.

The United States government has already taken action to check the Red menace in the western hemisphere by responding quickly to the requests of Nicaragua and Honduras for military equipment. A conference of all Latin American nations is soon to be called at which the question of imposing economic sanctions on Guatemala will probably be discussed. If a united effort were made by anti-Communist countries in Latin America to boycott Guatemalan coffee and to refuse to send fuel supplies and other materials to Guatemala, the Communist government in that country would be in serious trouble. We can no longer afford to ignore the people of Latin America. Unless we have the courage to face the situation squarely, we may not only have communism in Guatemala, but in many other countries of this hemisphere as well."

These first hand, on-the-scene impressions are helpful in understanding the seriousness of this problem. Fortunately Secretary of State Dulles, with all his other complicated and controversial problems, has taken strong steps to guarantee the perpetuation of the long standing U.S. policy based on the Monroe Doctrine.

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