

FOR RELEASE OCT. 2

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW  
BY GERALD R. FORD, JR.

Would you believe it! Of seven free nations which held recent national elections, comparative figures show that in all but one, over 70 per cent of the eligible voters actually voted. In Australia, 96 percent of the total electorate turned out for the elections; 83 percent went to the polls for the '51 election in Great Britain; Sweden and Western Germany boast a turn out of 80 and 75 percent respectively. Our neighbor, Canada, saw 74 percent of its total electorate go to the polls in '49, while Israel got out 72 per cent of the voters in 1951. And what about the United States in '48? Only 51 percent of the 97.5 million potential voters voted in the 1948 presidential election.

Kent and Ottawa counties showed a similar ratio. Of 187,078 eligible voters in Kent County, only 98,776 turned out in 1948. Ottawa made a showing of only 25,288 out of 44,733 eligible voters. What's wrong? I can't answer the question. That question must be answered in the heart of each and every citizen. The moral obligation to vote belongs to each of us by virtue of our American citizenship. No one forces us to vote. Here in America, it is our way of showing our interest in and our appreciation for our America. It is one of our most serious duties as American citizens.

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My sincerest thanks to all of you who wired, wrote and phoned your sentiments in behalf of our vice-presidential candidate, Dick Nixon. Our office, I am happy to say, was swamped with your messages supporting Ike's running mate and urging that he continue in his fight for America's security.

Let me assure you that your confidence in Dick Nixon, in his integrity and courage, is very well placed. I know Dick and I feel that your approval of his candidacy is evidence that you, too, recognize in him the qualities of leadership which this country so desperately needs.

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With the announcement that our pilotless planes are making successful attacks on the Chinese Reds in Korea, I found myself fancying a future war in which all the battles were fought from a single control room. Whole cities might be obliterated with one turn of a knob. Like one huge, international checker game, moves and counter-moves would be made by robot control. None of this, however, makes war appear any less fearful or terrible. War, no matter how its machines may be technically perfected, is, nevertheless, a scourge to the whole world. There is no such thing as a perfect war as we might speak of a perfect game. War comes of greed and pride, and the fruits of these vices can be nothing but more evil and distress.

I do not advocate the use of archaic weapons, for modern warfare has long outgrown the effectiveness of the bow and arrow, but I do look forward to the day when our technical instruments will function solely for the benefit of mankind, not for his death and destruction.

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"The Big Red Book" which has caused so much comment of late, has proved to be just about my best argument for a cut in the Federal Budget. Far more than a mere "conversation piece", my red-bound copy of the Federal Budget, weighing some 15 pounds, which I carry with me to almost every meeting, is graphic evidence of the "spend-spend-spend" policy of the present Administration.

I know of no better way to point out to those of you who may have a bit of difficulty in comprehending federal expenditures in terms of millions and billions, than by showing you the actual budget in black and white - and red.

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It's a red-letter day for me when I get a chance for a trip to the rural areas of our District. There's nothing like it for a renewed faith in human nature and confidence in the future of America.

I'm looking forward to more trips throughout both counties to hear what all of you have to say concerning the national issues. Your opinions, remember, will carry a good deal of weight with my decisions on future legislation should your vote elect me to the 83rd Congress.

FOR RELEASE OCT. 16

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW  
BY GERALD R. FORD, JR.

If anyone deserves a lot of credit and commendation, there's no one more worthy than my good friend and colleague, Charlie Potter. I know only too well what the strain of campaigning is, and Charlie, despite his physical handicaps is showing himself to be a real trouper. Knowing Charlie as I do from our years spent working together in the House of Representatives, I have the utmost respect for his ability as a Congressman and sincere confidence that in Charlie, Michigan will have a Senator who will not put personal benefit before his duty as a representative of the people of Michigan. Charlie Potter is completely capable of fulfilling the trust which the people of Michigan place in their Senator.

I wish all of you could know Charlie Potter as I know him. He's an outstanding citizen, a true friend, a capable legislator and will make an energetic and trustworthy Senator.

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With all the talk about robot guided missiles and the like, a trip to the moon doesn't seem to be in the too-distant future. And, in case your interested, we've learned that the \$260,000,000,000 of our national debt in \$1 bills would pave a strip 20 feet wide all along the whole 256,471 miles to the moon. Believe me, those are real astronomical figures, with a capital A.

I don't know who spends his time figuring out these things, but it sure helps folks like you and me get some notion of the enormity of the debt resting on the shoulders of the American citizens.

The present Administration has put the Federal government in big business at the expense of its citizens. Your vote in November will tell whether or not you approve of this uncomfortable situation in which you have been placed.

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As much as I should like to be in my office at the Federal Building at all times to talk to each one of you, individually, who stop for a visit, I need not tell you that there are many duties which make it impossible. I've found that having a competent staff is the next best thing. In my absence, therefore, I ask you to feel free to discuss your problems with the members of my staff. We work as a team with emphasis on service to constituents who have troubles with the many agencies of the Federal government.

John Milanowski, my Administrative assistant, is my right hand man. You can trust John to have accurate information on almost every phase of our Federal government.

My secretary, Adaline Brewer, is a whiz at keeping my appointments straight, to say nothing of the hundred and one other duties of a Congressional secretary. The appointments in themselves, are a mighty large order when you consider that an ordinary day consists of several conferences, speaking engagements and meetings in addition to the regular correspondence which must be mailed out each day.

Sally Obermeyer, who helps me personally with legislative research, speech material, radio and T.V. programs and other publicity, is available to handle anything along that line. She can also make arrangements with you for the many films which we have on hand to loan to you.

If your thinking that I'm left without anything to do, my columns ought to convince you that there are many things which a Congressman must do himself. Legislative matters are his direct responsibility and no amount of juggling can alter that fact. Having a competent staff makes it a whole lot easier to do a good job for you.

So, having introduced my staff to my readers, I'll repeat my invitation to you all to stop in our office for a visit. John, Adaline, Sally and myself are looking forward to meeting and talking to you.

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW  
BY GERALD R. FORD, JR.

The Americans for Democratic Action, better known as the A.D.A., has produced its "scorecard" on members of Congress. A few Senators and Representatives had a good batting average with this organization but most did not. Here's why.- The A.D.A. is an ultra left-wing organization which openly advocates a "planned economy" with all the horrors of extreme government regimentation and unlimited red tape. It's members deny it is a "communist front". Apparently this is true. However, the A.D.A. has a "soft" attitude toward the communist menace. For example, the 1952 platform of the A.D.A. declares its opposition to the Smith Act which law makes it a criminal offense to teach or advocate the overthrow of our government by force of violence. The Smith Act was the basis of the Federal government's drive against all communist leaders who were convicted in New York after prolonged trial. A dozen other communist leaders are awaiting trial under this law in California. The A.D.A. also attacked the FBI in connection with the Judy Coplon espionage case. A.D.A. believes in socialized medicine and the Brannan plan.

Interestingly enough, the Democratic Party candidate for the U.S. Senate in Michigan (Moody) had a 93 per cent batting average in the A.D.A. scorecard. Moody voted only once against the wishes of the A.D.A. In other words, there is a definite similarity of views between the A.D.A. and Moody. In contrast, Congressman Charles Potter is not the candidate of this extreme left wing group. I can assure you Congressman Charlie Potter has a topnotch record of supporting good legislation for the benefit of America as a whole.

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So you never had it so good. At least that's what our political opponents are trying to say - and in the same breath they're trying to deceive honest citizens into



believing that Republicans are bent solely upon "taking it away". Nothing is farther from the truth.

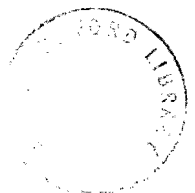
All the Republican candidates have stated time and time again that it is their intention, and, they feel, their obligation in view of the poor job done by the present Administration, to give to the citizens of the United States a high standard of living based on a firm foundation of sound economy. The Democrats claim to have provided us with a high standard of living. But what good is it? What good is a big, shiny, beautiful apple whose inside is rotten and wormy? What good is a grand and imposing home built on an unstable foundation? This is the high standard of living we have today.

Americans have a right to a high standard of living. There's not a one of us who would deny that. But they also have a right to a stable economy and the security it brings. The Democrats have ignored this side of the issue entirely.

General Eisenhower has left no doubt as to his first move toward a stable economy, should he be elected to fill the highest office in the land. More than once he has stated that he intends to eliminate the waste and extravagances which have sent the Federal expenditures sky-rocketing. Cutting off a little excess fat never harmed a good piece of meat and it won't hurt the national economy either.

And what about prices? You get more money but it buys less. And taxes... almost one-third the price of an automobile is taxes; one hundred taxes on a single egg; the price of a package of cigarettes is nearly doubled because of taxes. We never had it so good? I wonder how much better we could have it if we didn't have the graft, corruption, waste and unnecessary extravagance.

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YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW  
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Half-truths, if told often enough, soon appear to be whole-truths. It is difficult to understand why the Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate tells only one-sixth of the story when he "spouts" about Congressman Charlie Potter's attendance record. Misrepresentation of the record in this case is an unfair smear. Let's set the record straight.

Charlie Potter has been a United States Representative for six years. In 1947-1948, he had an attendance record of 97 per cent. For the 1949 session of the Congress, Potter's attendance record was 85 per cent and in 1950, 76 per cent. In 1951 Congressman Potter had an 85 per cent "batting average". The 1952 record was 46 per cent.

Why after a topnotch five year record did Charlie slip to a lower attendance average? The answer is simple and should be told. Congressman Potter has been a member of the Committee on Un-American Activities for the past term. That committee held important hearings in Los Angeles and Detroit where communist party infiltration was exposed in the motion picture and vital defense industries. The Un-American Activities Committee hearings were not held in Washington and as a result, committee members had to be away from the Nation's Capital. In other words, Congressman Potter, as a member of this important committee had to be away from Washington if he was to do his part in exposing communist infiltration in defense industries right here in Michigan as well as elsewhere throughout the country. In my opinion, it was most important for Charlie Potter to be on the job with this committee and it is obvious one person can't be in Washington and California at the same time.

On legislative matters affecting farmers, Potter and Moody disagree considerably. The Farmer's Union on its 1952 scorecard rates Moody ace high. On 15 votes, Moody voted 12 times the way the Farmer's Union recommended. Congressman Potter, in contrast, voted against all of the proposals recom-



mended by this organization. In other words, it is fair to say that Potter and the Farmer's Union are not in agreement on what is good for American agriculture while Moody and the Farmer's Union are in accord. The record also shows that the American Farm Bureau and the Grange disagree with the Farmer's Union on most issues. As one Kent County farmer said to me: "In one corner of the ring you have the Farm Bureau, the Grange and Potter while in the other the Farmer's Union and Moody."

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Don't forget to be stationed at your radios and TV sets Friday, October 31 from 7 to 10 p.m. John B. Martin, Jr. candidate for State Auditor General and myself will be holding fort for three hours on WOOD-TV to answer the questions you phone in. Here's your chance to ask lots of questions about both candidates and policies. So stand by Friday night! John and I will be waiting to hear from you. Watch your local papers for further announcements.

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I'd like to take this opportunity to remind my readers not to forget their contributions to the Grand Rapids War Memorial Drive and the Community Chest Drive. It might make you feel good to take time from the political whirl of these last few days before the national election to remember our local responsibilities. The Community Chest Campaign which this year includes FOUR major drives in ONE has been extended six days to enable the citizens of Grand Rapids to send in their contributions.

As I write this, over \$200,000 are still needed to reach the goal set for the 1953 drive. I myself, have spent some time soliciting contributions for the Community Chest, the Red Cross and other, and have found it a most rewarding endeavor. You the citizens of Western Michigan have been so generous in your response that it has made our work a pleasure. But we can't afford to relax our efforts at this time. Further more, it sure gives a lift to the morale to help in a worthy cause such as this.

So don't forget to send your donation right away to both the War Memorial Fund Drive and the Red Cross-Red Feather Campaign. Better still, don't wait for the solicitor to call on you. Call or write the Chest office nearest you and pledge your donation to the Community Chest drive, today.



FOR RELEASE NOV. 6

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW  
BY GERALD R. FORD, JR.

Open letter to "REVIEW" readers-

Response to our Friday night TV program was exceedingly great - so great, in fact, that John Martin and I were both pleased and overwhelmed.

However, as might be expected in a project this large, there were those who benefited from this type of program and there were those who had their complaints. Complaints fell into three general categories: technical complaints, complaints about handling of questions, and personal complaints.

The background noises of our telephone operators answering phones was absolutely unavoidable as was fully explained over the air. We are sincerely sorry if this was a source of annoyance to anyone.

The handling of the questions seemed to evoke the greatest amount of criticism. I can only assure you that we did the best that was humanly and physically possible under the circumstances. Over 600 questions came over our ten telephone wires in the space of three hours time. Naturally, they could not all be answered at that time. But for your information, we intend to answer personally each and every question sent in. We attempted to answer those questions which were concerned with major issues and those which were, apparently, real problems to you listeners.

Furthermore, and I speak both for John Martin and myself, we answered each question as it came to us as best we could with the factual data at our command. I might add, incidentally, that John and I felt as though we were up against a firing line. How would you like to get up there in front of all those cameras and lights and answer questions sent in from all over - as far as the television signal can reach? Believe me, we were under a good deal of pressure.

I have always welcomed criticism, both favorable and adverse - and that goes for the TV program, too. I thank



each and every one of you who expressed your interest by phoning in Friday night; whether you agreed with our views or not. Thanks, too, to all who were so generous with contributions.

In general, I sincerely hope the majority of you went away from our broadcast with some better knowledge of the issues at stake. If you did not, it was only our lack of skill which was responsible.

Anyway, thank you one and all.

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As I write this column for you, my readers, the votes have not yet been counted. The only thing of which American voters can be positively certain is that Mr. Truman will no longer be in the White House after January 3, 1953. After that date the reign of "Boss Harry" will belong to history.

Harry has made his future plans quite clear. It's back to the farm in Missouri for the Truman clan. Yes, back to the farm... but it won't be the same farm Bess and Margaret knew before they left, many years ago. Mr. Truman has been laying aside some pin money during the past few years with which he intends to "fix up the old place".

There'll be a large library for all of Harry's books ...a special corner for his favorites...seven tremendous volumes of the Federal budget, accumulated during his seven years as President of our United States. No doubt, too, there'll be room for a scrap book of "before and after" pictures of the redecorated White House. It seems Harry has acquired a penchant for re-decorating.

Harry the Maberdasher has made his name and fortune and now will retire to the position of the country gentlemen. But there's something about ex-Presidents of the United States. They can never really "fade away". In the future, historians will decide whether the Truman Administration was good or bad for America. At this point, we can only be certain that Mr. Truman was the "name-callingest" President of all time.

But as we close that book and open another on a new Administration we hope and trust America can take a new lease on life.

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It's all over...including the shouting! The voters have had their day and they've made the decisions which will effect the future of the Nation for the next four years.

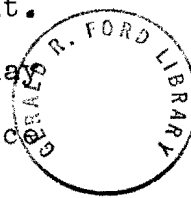
There's no question about it, Adlai Stevenson was a remarkable candidate. I feel very strongly that Tuesday's vote was directed not so much against Stevenson as against Truman and his Administration.

Throughout the campaign, Stevenson showed himself to be a man of nobility and character. Would that he had had other affiliations! It is indeed unfortunate that a man of Stevenson's qualities had to be sacrificed on the altar of HST's arrogance.

Those of us who know Mr. Stevenson only through his campaign speeches cannot help but respect him. He was as admirable in defeat as he was in the throes of the campaign.

But Eisenhower is the man...the best man... chosen to guide our nation through the coming four years...a critical four years. Ike knows, from the overwhelming vote which put him into office, that he has the support of the people of America. Ike is assured, too, of the energetic support of all the Republican workers...the same energetic support which was manifested throughout the campaign. In other words, Ike knows a great trust and responsibility has been placed in him and he knows as well that he can count on his people to stand behind him, to help him to bear the burden. It is this cooperation between citizens and Administration...so long lacking from America's political scene... which will revitalize America and put it back on solid footing.

Tuesday, November 4th was not merely a great day for Republicans. It was a great day for America. The figures... the largest vote in the Nation's history...prove that Democrats, Independents as well as Republicans wanted Eisenhower for President. The boundaries of political affiliations were broken down that day as the citizens elected Dwight D. Eisenhower to the highest office in the land...President of the United States.



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I owe a great debt of gratitude to all of you who gave me such a tremendous vote of confidence in Tuesday's election. I am very proud of the response, and deeply appreciative.

Furthermore, I renew my pledge to you to continue giving my best efforts in your behalf. At the same time I urge you to keep me informed of your opinions and needs. Only with your help will I be able to do the kind of job you expect from your Representative to Congress.

Many thanks for your cooperation in the past. Now we're all starting off with a clean slate, determined to do the best job possible.

There are a lot of thanks to be bestowed, now that the rigors of the campaign are over. Everyone from newspaper editors and radio station managers to campaign workers and contributors deserve heartiest congratulations for their excellent cooperation. I should like to thank personally each and every individual who took time to phone my office to give words of encouragement during the campaign. I sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness.

I can say without fear of contradiction that not a single Republican was confident of victory until the votes were counted Tuesday evening. For this very reason, we owe a great debt of gratitude to those of you whose intense efforts as well as your constant reassurance really won the victory for us.

My only remark now is - let's keep up the good work! We've seen what concentrated efforts and down-to-earth hard work can accomplish. Let's profit from our experiences during the campaign. It's hard work that's going to put the Nation back on its feet.

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW  
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By this time many of you who wrote me during the campaign are beginning to receive the long-overdue answers to your letters. Now that I'm finally getting time to wade into the mountain of correspondence, I find the number of complaints from individuals having difficulty with the Bureau of Internal Revenue is really staggering. You will be interested to learn that every single letter is being forwarded to the Regional Office in Detroit. I am in hopes that the deluge of mail will light a fire under a few of the officials down there so that we can look forward to a more efficient handling of tax returns in the very near future.

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We all spend lots of time complaining about the international situation as well as the diplomats who are forming national and international policies. But do we ever stop to think that these very diplomats are not machines with brief-cases for hearts?

Have you ever imagined what it might be like making decisions affecting the citizens of an entire nation--the whole world? And how would you like to have that as your everyday job even as you now go off to the office or factory each day? For myself, I have often pondered the terrific responsibility facing these men and wondered why more of them didn't crack up under the strain.

Try, sometime, to put yourself in the position of a high government official. Place yourself at a long table with officials of foreign-speaking nations, each with many difficult problems to solve. For atmosphere, add bright lights, cameras, newsmen, secretaries, clerks and a general buzz of activity. In the midst of all this, our diplomats must discuss, argue, bargain and decide.

In the light of all these facts, I'd suggest that the diplomats burdened with the weight of many, many problems be given a certain amount of mercy and a great deal of prayer. They are all human, prone to the same weaknesses even as you and I.

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Veterans certainly have their share of problems these days. As evidence I submit the score of letters on allotment checks, GI loans, GI education, etc., received at my office almost daily. Many of these problems are unavoidable but some might be escaped if just plain old caution were used.

For example, when it comes to buying something as expensive as a house, nearly all of us have to borrow money to swing the deal. That involves regular payments every month. Now, sometimes, in spite of everything that can be done, a few fall behind on their payments--and of course, that holds true for some veterans who have bought homes with GI loans. So here's a warning. Watch out for "sharps."



The bait used by these tricksters is a promise to help you wipe out your accumulated debt and bring you up to date. But to do this you have to sign the sharper's paper. Too late, you learn that what you really signed was a deed to your property. That makes you pay plenty to get your own house back. If you can't raise the money, he takes you to court. He produces the deed signed by you and puts you out of your own house. And that's only one of the tricks they use.

A faker may offer you a small sum of money for your equity in the house. As bait, he offers you the opportunity to buy a less expensive house--in a cheaper location. It looks plausible. You think that you're swapping a place you can't afford for a place you can afford--and paying the sharper for helping you. But here's the catch! Later on you are informed that there are "no listings available" in the lower cost neighborhood. You are then legally out of the House you signed over to the swindler for a lot less than your equity in it.

Now it may happen that you'll never run into a financial jam--or run into one of these slick operators. But it'll pay you to be on the alert. Remember this common sense rule. Don't ever sign anything unless you thoroughly understand it. So, if you own a GI home, and you have trouble meeting your payments, check first with <sup>the bank and</sup> the VA. Remember this too: If you need information or help on any other benefits provided for you, get in touch with the one place that has all the dope--your nearest Veterans Administration office.

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW  
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Despite the many precedents and singular events which marked this presidential election as one of the most unusual in history, when January 3 rolls around traditional procedures will usher in the new 83rd Congress and install the new administration.

Before Congress convenes on January 3, House members-elect, both Democratic and Republican will meet in their respective party conferences to select candidates for House offices. A Speaker and Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, Chaplain, Doorkeeper, and Postmaster of the House will have to be elected by the members of the 83rd Congress. In addition, the groups also select their party officials. These are the floor leader, party whip, assistant whips and committee on committees.

The first roll will be called by Ralph Roberts, Clerk of the 82nd Congress. Nominations will be made by a member from each party and the entire body will then proceed to a vote. Republicans having the slight edge on the Democrats in the new Congress, the Republican nominee for Speaker (probably Joseph Martin of Mass.) will, no doubt, take the election and senior Republican, Rep. Daniel A. Reed of N.Y. will administer the oath of office. The newly-installed Speaker will then administer the oath of office to the entire body of members-elect.

Various organizational resolutions will be brought up and voted upon during the first day or two, although committee membership may take considerably longer because of the change in party control.

In the Senate, much the same system prevails with the exception of the election of a President pro-tempore, who presides in the absence of the Vice-President. Official appointments may be delayed in the higher body until after January 20 when Sen. Richard Nixon is sworn into office.



This year, the first business of the joint Congress will be the counting of electoral votes which, according to Federal law takes place on January 6.

All in all, the Congressional organization ought to be ship-shape in time for the inauguration, or at least well under way. Meanwhile, I understand that at the Capitol in Washington, preparations were begun long ago for the Inauguration Day ceremonies. Even now, two months before the big day, hotel accommodations in our Nation's Capital are already at a premium. It promises to be a most exciting time indeed for Republicans, Washingtonians and all citizens who will be fortunate enough to attend the Inauguration ceremonies.

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Two congratulatory letters found themselves side-by-side in my mail the other morning: one was from the president-elect himself, Dwight D. Eisenhower; the other bore the letter head of Senator Estes Kefauver. Both ironically stated that they looked forward to our working together in the new Congress. For my part, I sincerely hope it will be possible for the safety and well-being of the Nation, for all branches of our Federal government to work together with world peace and national security and stability as our goal.

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With the traditional Thanksgiving dinner sending all sorts of heavenly aromas through the house, and friends gathering to spend a happy and peaceful day together - it's not hard to remember that we all have much to be thankful for. For those to whom the year has brought misfortune this day of days may be marked by a distinct gloom. To those I express my deepest sympathy as also my hope that the future will bring blessings merited by their suffering.

But to all,.... Betty, Mike, Jack and I, as well as my staff, send our best wishes for a Happy Happy Thanksgiving Day.



YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW  
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Some interesting statistics concerning the new 83rd Congress have just been released to the public:

Although elected to serve in the House of Representatives for the 83rd Congress, Garrett L. Withers (D-Ky.) will retain his title of Senator since previous service in the Senate permits him to use that title for life.

Another interesting sidelight is the fact that there will be twelve Congresswomen ( a new record) seated in the 83rd Congress, including Margaret Chase Smith, who is still the solitary woman in the upper house.

Of particular note is the election of Oliver P. Bolton to his first term as Representative of Ohio's 11th District. Oliver Bolton is the son of Mrs. Frances P. Bolton, Representative of the 22nd District of Ohio who has served since February of 1940 when she was elected to fill the vacancy created by the death of her husband.

Only two of the distaff representation in Congress have not had previous service in either the House or the Senate...and seven of the twelve are widows of former Congressmen.

Women members of Congress, I might add at this point, take no back seat as far as fulfilling their official responsibilities are concerned. Their competence has earned for them the high esteem of every other member of Congress.

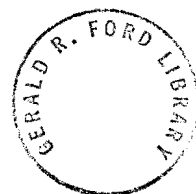
Those of us who may be old-fashioned enough to think that a woman's place is in the home are forced to do some re-considering when we see the "gals" debating like troopers on the floor of the Congress. When issues demand, the feminine voice can resound throughout the chamber as powerfully as any man's. How well we know just how persuasive, forceful and capable Congress women can be!

At least, brother Congressmen, we still haven't been outnumbered.

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The McCarran Immigration Bill has received some mighty rough treatment at the hands of would-be interpreters, including Federal attorneys who are "agin" the law under any circumstance. The result has been wholesale confusion and misunderstanding on the part of well-meaning citizens.

At the outset let it be know that United States citizens arriving from either Hawaii or Alaska are not subject to exclusion of any kind when entering the continental United States. The provisions concerning screening of persons entering the country from Alaska refer solely to aliens regardless of any other interpretation which may have been offered to the public from uninformed sources.

Because this matter was brought to my attention, I wrote directly to the House Committee on the Judiciary for clarification of these provisions. Their reply, in addition to the above information, stated that the Immigration and Nationality Act was intended primarily to remove inconsistencies in existing law...and not to discriminate against citizens of the United States. For this reason, I urge you to check with reliable sources before becoming unnecessarily concerned over friends or relative who are affected by these provisions.

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My first Christmas gift of 1952 turned up last week ...a remembrance from Congressman Thurmond Chatham of North Carolina. Finding no "Do not open until Christmas"-tag on the package, I tore off the wrappings and found inside this note together with a quart jar of delectable honey:

"The bees in the Fifth District of North Carolina will always be good Democrats and, like good Democrats, will be ambitious, industrious, frugal and successful. I want you to have the benefit of this honey produced in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

Now, a joke's a joke, but I just won't be able to sleep nights 'til I think of something equally as clever to counteract my colleague's subtle humor. I had thought of something, but upon reconsidering I decided that informing him that it was the Democrats who got stung this year would be a bit too brutal especially after his thoughtfulness in sending the honey. But rest assured, I'll think of something.

for release Dec. 11

YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW  
BY GERALD R. FORD, JR.

It's not often that I have an opportunity to give wholehearted approval and commendation to a military group so that when the occasion arises I'm more than anxious to do so. Last week a letter was brought to my attention from a certain Lt. Robert L. Gant of the 6th Armored Division, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Lt. Gant has, in my estimation, initiated one of the finest public relations projects which it has ever been my fortune to encounter. Here's how it works:

When a boy arrives at Ft. Leonard Wood for training, Lt. Gant sends his parents a letter telling them of their boy's assignment and outlining his schedule during his training. Among other things the parents are given the boy's correct address, informed of recreational facilities available to the men and even notified of guest facilities should relatives desire to visit him.

The parents are especially admonished to help to dispel inevitable homesickness by sending lots of cheery letters.

I am certain that every parent who received one of these letters feels far more secure and confident that his boy is in good hands. In my judgement, I have yet to learn of a more positive effort toward better understanding and cooperation between officers, men and their families. It gives me great pleasure to send my heartiest congratulations to Lt. Gant for a most practical service to his country.

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Last week I was favored with a personal interview with the Australian Ambassador to the U.S. and I was also privileged to hear him speak before the Economic Club of Detroit. The Ambassador, who is also the top Australian representative in the United States spoke frankly about the problems of Pacific Security and how his country and ours must stand shoulder to shoulder against the atheistic dictators in the Kremlin. It was most encouraging to hear this rugged little fighter from the land "down under" praise, with sincerity, our Nation, its people



con't.

General MacArthur and the principles for which we all fought in World War II.

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Rep. Joseph Martin of Massachusetts who is most likely to become Speaker of the House of Representatives this coming January indicated he will let the various House Committees decide whether their hearings may be televised or photographed for newsreels. During the last session of the Congress, Joe Martin disagreed with Speaker Rayburn's TV ban of House Committee hearings.

The arbitrary decision to bar cameras from the House Committee hearings was an unquestionable injustice to the American people since the restriction came at a time when the issues were of public concern. If you recall, Rayburn's proclamation came at the eleventh hour before the televising of the Un-American Activities Committee hearings in Detroit in February of 1952. There were a good many vehement charges and countercharges made at the time on both sides. As a matter of fact, I am reasonably certain the controversy was heated enough that we can all look for a fair and sensible approach to the problem in the 83rd Congress.

It is understandable that in some instances, for security reasons, a temporary restriction on news stories is necessary. However, it is certainly unfair to the American public to use censorship for political reasons.

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Like all the rest of you we are still up to our ears in Christmas shopping...and in the midst of it all trying to get ready to move back to Washington. We're getting to feel almost like gypsies having to pack up every few months to go back and forth from Washington to Grand Rapids. This year we'll all be spending our Christmas in Washington so as to be ready bright and early on January 3 when Congress re-convenes. There's lots of work to be done this year and there'll be no room for slackers. So even though we might prefer to be in Grand Rapids for the holidays we'll have to extend our greetings from 650 miles away.



YOUR WASHINGTON REVIEW

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By GERALD R. FORD, JR.

Undoubtedly the Nation is relieved to know that Ike is back from Korea. He had stated from the outset that his trip would not produce any miraculous solution to the Korean conflict, either while he was in Korea nor immediately after his return. His trip, we must remember, was intended primarily that he might see for himself and thereby make more effective plans with regard to the Korean situation. As a recognized military expert Eisenhower was well equipped to observe with a keen and critical eye the military situation in Korea. As a capable and resourceful administrator he will be qualified to make judgments and formulate plans which, we all trust, will bring a decided improvement in the Korean conflict.

The very fact that Ike would not be satisfied with second-hand reports on the Korean affair and insisted upon a personal review of our status in Korea is in itself sufficient evidence that Ike will be a thorough and efficient Chief Executive. He will not be content to sit idly by watching casualty lists mount as armchair strategists at truce conferences engage in endless bickering. Our next president will be both a man of thought and a man of action. We have long been in need of both.

Furthermore President-to-be Ike wants the aid and advice of all as evidenced in his conference with General MacArthur. It is unbelievable that MacArthur with all his knowledge of the Far East has never been consulted by Mr. Truman.

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Shortly after Ike's election he set up a committee of distinguished citizens to make recommendations on government reorganization. It was aimed at the same problems which the Hoover Commission tackled several years ago. About sixty percent of the Hoover Commission proposals are now in operation but some of the most controversial suggested changes are still gathering dust on the bureaucratic shelves. The Eisenhower reorganization committee may force further streamlining in the numerous bureaus and agencies which will mean eventual savings in taxes.

Here are some of the spots where reorganizations might be recommended. Cabinet rank for the administrator of the Federal Security Agency. With Oscar Ewing to be replaced by Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby in this job the Congress might approve such a change.

It is rumored that the committee might come up with a suggestion to transfer the flood control and river and harbor responsibilities of the Army Engineers to the Department of Interior's Bureau of Reclamation. Presidents Hoover and Truman in the past tried to make such a shift but without success.



Congressional opposition mainly stemmed from the doubt that the Bureau of Reclamation would do the job effectively and without partisanship. Recently the idea has popped up that maybe it would be sensible to combine all public works functions in a new and separate agency. Maybe the Eisenhower committee will agree.

The Committee is also wrestling with the proposal for the creation of a single government medical and hospital service as an independent agency or as part of the Federal Security Agency. The Veterans Administration would certainly object with or without justification.

Other possible changes include the transfer of the Forest Service from the Department of Agriculture to Interior; Bureau of Land Management from Interior to Agriculture and the consolidation of the Department of Agriculture's various farm credit agencies into a single bureau.

It can be expected that opposition to any changes will appear just as the various Hoover Commission proposals were denounced by some. The new Congress, Ike and the Public generally must however, seek and approve reorganization where the facts justify revision. The Hoover Commission stated 5 billion dollars could be saved each year by streamlining the government with no loss in services to the public. That would be a nice way to cut expenses and to help to reduce taxes. The Eisenhower committee can do a great public service by coming up with some darn good suggestions on reorganization.

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Once again we have come to that season when postmasters take aspirin instead of their morning coffee and letter carriers have horrible nightmares. Millions of Americans annually express their Christmas cheer by card or by gift. It's tough on the postoffice department but good for the rest of us to let our relatives, friends and neighbors know of our good will. Without further ado the Fords (Mike, Jack, Betty, and Jerry) most emphatically wish to extend to each of you our sincere wishes for a Happy and Holy Christmas Season.

