



Robert Estabrook Justice Douglas Merlo Pusey  
WASHINGTON POST EDITORS ACCEPTED THE JUSTICE'S CHALLENGE

## Little Agreement On Economic Scene

By EDMOND LE BRETON  
WASHINGTON (U-P) — The argument among businessmen, economists and lawmakers over the economic state of the nation along these lines today: Should the government do something drastic to stimulate business, now, perhaps later, or at all?

Now, said two Democratic senators, Hill of Alabama and Douglas of Illinois, in separate interviews.

## Senate Debates Chavez Case

By RICHARD P. POWERS  
WASHINGTON (U-P) — The Senate opens debate today on whether to unseat Sen. Chavez (D-NM). A vote, expected to follow closely party lines, is possible tomorrow.

There were no advance signs of a break in the ranks of the Democrats, who held a hairline margin in the Senate, and one Republican said some GOP senators might not vote to put Chavez out.

The issue is a recommendation by the Senate Rules Committee that Chavez' seat be declared vacant. The five Republicans on the committee outvoted the four Democrats to adopt a subcommittee's finding that the 1952 senatorial election in New Mexico was marked by irregularities on such a scale it was impossible to tell who really won, Chavez or his Republican opponent, Patrick J. Hurley.

New Mexico has a Republican governor who, if Chavez were unseated, could reverse the present close division of the Senate by appointing a Republican senator. The lineup now is 48 Democrats, 47 Republicans and 1 independent.

The investigating subcommittee made no charge against Chavez' personal integrity. In a minority report, Sen. Jennings of Missouri, only Democrat on the subcommittee, fully defended Chavez and accused the majority of proceeding with "the apparent intent from the start to disfranchise the voters and to deprive a duly elected United States senator of his seat."

## Comic Dictionary

EXCEPTION  
What every rule has, including this one.

## EVENING PRAYER

O God, in whom alone is our peace, we come to Thee amid our trials, anxieties, and sorrows. Grant us Thy peace which passes all understanding, that in Thee our joy may be full, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## OUR WEATHER

Sunny and cool today. Fair and cold tonight with scattered frost. Tuesday, increasing cloudiness and warmer.

Low temperature this morning, 28 degrees.

Low temperature expected tonight, 31 degrees.

High temperature yesterday, 59 degrees.

High temperature expected today, 69 degrees.

Sunrise, 6:24 a.m.; sunset, 6:36 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A

# U.S. Economy In Good Shape, Weeks Says

## Tax Battle Continues

## Exemption Boost Seen By Senate

By JACK BELL  
WASHINGTON (U-P) — Sen. Hill (D-Ala.) said today that "prospects are favorable" for Senate adoption of a proposed \$200 increase in personal exemptions for individual income taxpayers.

But Chairman Millikin (R-Colo.) of the Senate Finance Committee, which will consider a House-approved tax revision bill, said he wasn't conceding anything on this score.

Administration forces last week defeated, 219-204, an attempt by House Democrats to tack a \$100 exemption increase on the general revision bill.

NEW EFFORT  
And another tax-cutting effort by a Democrat was announced last night by Sen. Douglas of Illinois. He said he will try to write 300 million dollars more reductions into the excise tax bill now in the Senate.

He said on the Meet Your Congress television program he proposes reductions on "necessities and necessities." He said the cuts he advocates could mean a \$50 price reduction on automobiles and about \$25 on such appliances as hating companions pushed forward today on their 134-mile walk to Washington, D.C.

At the end of their third day's journey lay Fort Frederick State Park and the only night of camp in the open the party plans before its scheduled arrival in Washington Saturday.

The group spent last night at the Woodmont Road and Gun Club near Hancock, Md., 37 miles south of Washington, D.C., where they started out Saturday morning.

Douglas is seeking to demonstrate to two Washington editorial writers and others who joined the group, that the natural beauties of the government-owned Chesapeake and Ohio Canal would be marred by construction of a proposed federal highway.

His challenge to the editorial writers, who favored the parkway, resulted in the eight-day journey. In the first day of slogging over muddy trails, and in yesterday's blustery weather which included even a few snow flurries, the expedition shrank from 34 to about 23 who planned to continue today's leg of about 20 miles.

The walking pace also slowed from an average of one hour the first day to three miles an hour yesterday. Liniment was being liberally applied to sore muscles last night.

Most of the nine who quit the party, though, were newsmen, government officials and others who had to get back to other assignments or their regular Monday jobs.

The rugged justice, who relishes outdoor life, showed little sign of fatigue. Charles P. Thomas, the 78-year-old retired mailcarrier from Washington and oldest man in the group, also was going strong.

The rest of the team sailed for Bordeaux, France, aboard a British ship.

## French Brace For Expected New Attacks

## By LARRY ALLEN

HANOI, Indochina (U-P) — French Union troops braced themselves anew today for a still expected new mass assault against their Dien Bien Phu fortress by the Communist-led Vietnamese.

Douglas asserted that "the Republican program will not cure the impending recession."

He said the big tax revision bill now in the hands of the Senate Finance Committee "gives the average taxpayer a \$9 a year reduction in his tax load, while slicing \$1,700 a year from the taxes paid by the average stock owner making more than \$10,000 annually."

GLOOMY TALK HIT  
Rep. Keen (R-NJ) on the same program said he knew of no one who had caused more jobs to be lost than had Douglas "through his preaching of gloom all the time."

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THESE MODERN CHILDREN can sure twist their parents around, and 21-month-old John Wayne Matheny is no exception. To demonstrate just for some visiting Cub scouts at March Air Force Base in California, the youngster threw his father, Robert W. Matheny, through the air. Pop's a judo instructor at the base, and admits that he gives his young son a great deal of cooperation in these demonstrations. (AP Wirephoto)

## McCarthy Urged To Quit Committee

## By JACK BELL

WASHINGTON (U-P) — Sen. McCarthy today appeared to be building up among Senate Republican leaders today that Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.) should step all the way off his investigations subcommittee while the French Foreign Legion were dug deep into trenches and dirt-bagged bunkers behind the mazes of barbed wire. The area more and more took on the appearance of a World War I battlefield.

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to vote on issues before the group McCarthy has said he plans not to vote "on any final decisions or conclusions" of the subcommittee.

Knowland said in an interview that McCarthy has agreed to be sworn and to testify as a witness, I would think the procedure would be for him to voluntarily step aside and not attempt to participate in the questioning of other witnesses.

On the other hand, Sen. Potter (R-Mich.), a member of McCarthy's subcommittee, said he for one isn't going to insist that McCarthy give up his place as a committee member, even temporarily, if the Wisconsin senator chooses to stay.

The subcommittee plans to meet tomorrow to discuss procedure for its hearings, no date for which has been fixed.

McCarthy, voicing "complete confidence in this scientific institution when it is operated properly," said he will suggest then the use of detectors if all the witnesses agree. He plans to testify himself.

"The American public is entitled to the truth in the matters we are about to investigate," McCarthy said. "I plan to recommend to the subcommittee... that it ask all witnesses who may have knowledge of this case, including myself, whether they would be willing to submit to a scientific lie detector test."

Dr. Basinger added, "I give her lots of love too."

For the third time, the Basingers' repeated their wedding vows before a minister. They had a similar ceremony on their golden anniversary 10 years ago.

"This marriage is bound to stick because you know the third time is a charm," Mrs. Basinger said.

He is 79; she is 73.

## Government Ready To Act If Necessary

## Commerce Secretary Speaks In Canada

TORONTO, Canada (U-P) — Secretary of Commerce Weeks said today the United States economy is in excellent shape.

But if conditions should require, the U. S. cabinet officer said, "We shall not hesitate to use new monetary policy, new tax revisions, new incentives to business expansion and employment, large scale public works and whatever further public spending and legislation are needed to cope with an emergency."

Weeks did not specify what tax revisions are contemplated if an economic emergency should arise. U. S. Treasury officials also, on Secretary Humphrey on down, have avoided saying what tax cuts they would recommend to stimulate business if it should decline to the point where they think such action is needed.

CITES FACTORS  
However, Weeks in remarks prepared for delivery to the Canadian Club indicated that at this point he is optimistic. He recalled the following "plus factors" as he sees them in the American economic outlook:

"It was recognized that following the slow down of the earlier defense expansion, certain readjustments would occur in the civilian economy. Some of these readjustments are over and others continue."

The annual rate of national output has gone down, but the decline so far has been moderate. Even so, we are operating at a current rate a bit below 360 billion dollars. The total for the year 1952 was 348 billion. So we are much better off than two short years ago. (United States total production in 1945 was recorded by the Commerce Department at 267.4 billion dollars, the highest ever.)

"Our very latest survey of expectations for new plant and equipment indicates that business plans capital expenditures almost as high as in peak 1953—the sum of 27.4 billion dollars, only 4 per cent less than last year."

"The latest figures show that construction activity in February on a seasonally adjusted basis was up both from January, and from February, 1953."

"Our recent surveys report business sales expectations in general to approximate those of 1953. Durable goods producers expect an 8 per cent dip; utilities expect a 10 per cent jump."

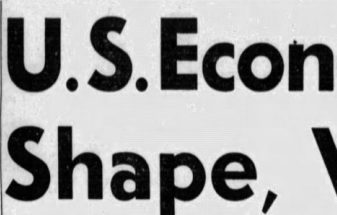
SPENDING KEEPS PACE  
"Total consumer spending thus far in the first quarter (of 1954) has kept pace with the fourth quarter of 1953. The decline in durable goods purchases has been offset by a rise in (spending for) services."

"The annual rate in January was at the annual rate of 282.4 billion dollars, less than 2 per cent below peak July and 2 billion dollars (annual rate) above January, 1953. The recent tax reductions have kept disposable income at the same rate as at the end of 1953."

"Without the slightest intention of seeming unduly optimistic or of boasting, I cite the facts to reassure you that your best customer in reality is in excellent shape."

Save  
10 Cents  
on  
Shortening!

Read  
Betty Boyer  
in  
Wednesday's  
GROCERY NEWS



They weren't aboard when the trans-Atlantic liner Andrea Doria left Europe, but these two babies were on the passenger list when Capt. Pasquale Pezzuto docked his ship in New York. He holds Andrea Pasquale Calvano in his right arm and Giuseppe Andrea Pasquale in his left. Both were born enroute to the parents of the ship when naming the children. (AP Wirephoto)

## 3 Crewmen Die In Blaze On Ship

## PHILADELPHIA (U-P)

A flash fire swept the sleeping quarters of a 5,000-ton Danish freighter Gudrun Maerk yesterday, killing three of the crewmen.

The fire was discovered shortly before dawn. The ship was berthed at the city docks.

Eleven men were asleep in the crew's quarters at the time. Eight were companies, a fireboat, and other emergency equipment fought the fire for an hour before it was brought under control.

They weren't aboard when the trans-Atlantic liner Andrea Doria left Europe, but these two babies were on the passenger list when Capt. Pasquale Pezzuto docked his ship in New York. He holds Andrea Pasquale Calvano in his right arm and Giuseppe Andrea Pasquale in his left. Both were born enroute to the parents of the ship when naming the children. (AP Wirephoto)

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## WHAT'S INSIDE

INTRODUCING GRANDMA: A bright new comic feature appears on the comic page today, joining such outstanding comic page personalities as Mary Worth, Blondie, Rex Morgan, Bud Sawyer, Joe Palooka, Steve Canyon and others who brighten afternoons. Turn now to the comic page and meet Grandma.

ENDURING BUT EXASPERATING was the woman that Billy Rose is writing about today. He tells about Fannie in his column on Page 2-B.

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS for youngsters get a good-humored ribbing from Columnist Robert C. Ruark on today's editorial page 2-A.

Business 11B  
Classified 11B  
Comics 12A  
Crossword 12B  
Editorials 13A  
How To 13A  
Features 13A

Obituaries 12B  
Radio TV 12B  
Serial 12A  
Sports 12B  
Theater 12B  
Wishing Well 6A  
Women 12B