

Veto Power on Appropriations

President Seen Holding Trump Card
In Fight With Congress Over Budget

President Eisenhower has the chance that comes once in a lifetime of public service, not only to win his fight for a sound budget but to put on a better basis than ever before the whole process of enacting budget appropriations. The trump card is the use of the veto power.

If a President considers that in an appropriation bill some items are too high and others are inadequate, he has the right under the Constitution to veto the entire measure. Then it has to be acted on again by its proponents, and they must mobilize a two-thirds vote of both houses to override the veto.

This means that members of Congress who may have been able to hide behind a voice vote on the original bill must go on record in a formal roll call when voting to sustain or to override a presidential veto. This, of course, gives the people back home the necessary information as to where their representatives stood on the issue.

The over-all veto, which is the only leverage on Congress a President possesses on money items, has seldom been used in connection with appropriation bills. With all the talk of the decline of a President's power in his second term, there is nothing which could so promptly restore it to full vigor as a judicious use of the veto. If it's wrong for Congress to enact one section of a bill, it is right for the President to say so and to decline to sign the whole thing. If Congress, despite the objections raised, wishes to re-enact the measure over the veto, it is free to do so, but the dispute is thereby dramatized and the country can decide at the polls—as, for instance, in the November, 1956, congressional elections—whether the President or the member of Congress who voted against him is right.

The President can argue that, since he is by the Constitution vested with the obligation to conduct foreign relations, adequate funds must be appropriated for national defense, for mutual security and for an international information program. He could request more or less for individual items, but Congress would have to bear the responsibility for the final action taken, either by sustaining the veto and enacting a new bill or by overriding the veto and enacting the same bill into law. This would naturally mean compromises and readjustments so as to win presidential approval.

The need for use of the veto was stressed by Woodrow Wilson in his book on "Constitutional Government," published in 1908. He wrote that, since a President of the United States "is the representative of no constituency but of the whole people," he has the duty to use the veto power. Wilson said of the powers of a President:

"His is the vital place of action in the system, whether he accept it as such or not, and the office is the measure of the man—of his wisdom as well as of his force. His veto abundantly equips him to stay the hand of Congress when he will. It is seldom possible to pass a measure over his veto, and no President has hesitated to use the veto when his own judgment of the public good was seriously at issue with that of the houses."

Two television addresses on the budget by President Eisenhower may or may not have aroused a favorable response by the country, because there is no way to measure immediately whether the Chief Executive has public opinion with him. However, his veto of each appropriation bill that seems to the President inadequate can soon indicate—

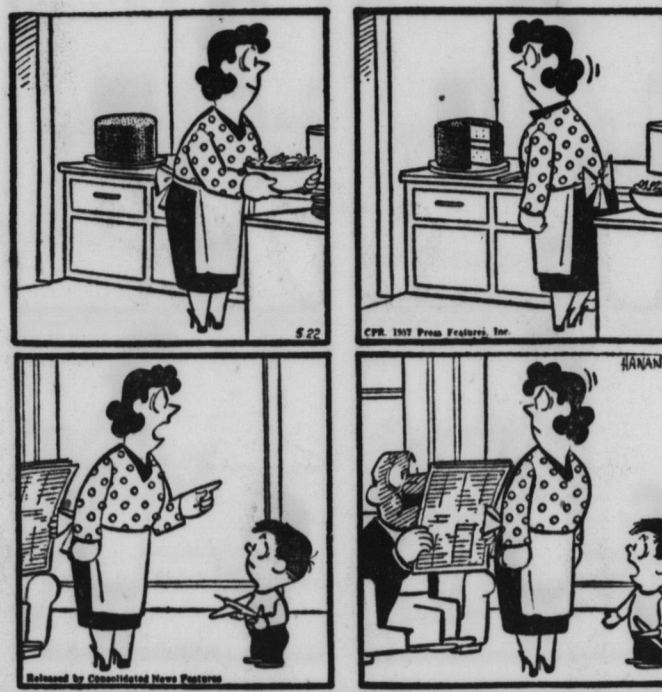
when the roll call to sustain or override is taken—what the Congressmen at least sense public opinion to be. It can foretell what many of them may be up against when the President enters the 1958 and 1960 campaigns to defend the record of his administration.

There has been a movement in recent years urging the adoption of a constitutional amendment that would give Presidents the right to veto individual items in appropriation bills. Senator Byrd, Democrat of Virginia, has been one of the champions of the proposed reform. But the same result can be accomplished without a constitutional amendment if Congress would put in the preamble of every appropriation bill a formal declaration that each numbered item or paragraph is to be considered as a separate piece of legislation and subject to presidential veto, just the same as in any other action of Congress whereby bills are approved jointly by both houses.

The argument for the right to veto individual items is that there are some things of which a President may disapprove and yet he cannot at present single them out for separate action because they are all combined in a single piece of legislation. Often money items of doubtful wisdom are inserted deliberately by Congress, which knows that a President must take the good with the bad.

But it may be that the power of a President is even greater when he decides to reject an entire measure that Congress puts up to him on an "all or none" basis. He can turn the tables and say, in effect: "Amend certain items, or you'll get none." The pressure, especially from the friends of beneficiaries of the legislation, that would then arise from all sides to get some kind of bill enacted would lead inevitably to an equitable compromise.

(Reproduction Rights Reserved.)



POTOMAC FEVER FLETCHER KNEBEL

Ike announces a global campaign against malaria. Modern Republican: "For malaria, you take quinine." Conservative Republican: "You take the quinine. Make mine hemlock."

Democratic Congressman Whitten charges 30 per cent of defense spending is wasted. Things were different under the Democrats. Then, 70 per cent wasn't.

Ike goes on TV to defend his \$3.8 billion foreign aid program. Republican Party announcement: "Statements made by the President on this show do not necessarily reflect the views of his sponsors."

Atomic Commissioner Libby says the United States now has "clean" H-bombs. AEC motto: "All bombs vacuum-cleaned—for cleaner vacuums."

What TV interviewing would have been at the time of the Civil War: "Well, aside from that, Mrs. Lincoln, what did you think of the play?"

Republican Chairman ALCORN charges Democrats tried to destroy the free enterprise system. They failed. Under the Republicans, it's taking less and less enterprise to get it free.

The Teamsters Union pulls a strike at our earth satellite base in Florida. Planning your space travel vacation? See your space travel agent, Dave Beck.

CONSTANTINE BROWN

Defending Northeast Asia Area

U. S. Officials Will Discuss NEATO Plan
With Visiting Japanese Premier

The pending visit of Japan's Premier Nobusuke Kishi to Washington is expected to be more than a get-acquainted affair. The Japanese leader will discuss vital problems involving not only the two countries, but the other free Asians.

For some time the State Department has been planning a political constellation, the NEATO (Northeast Asian Treaty Organization) with Japan as the key member. The Chinese Nationalist government in Formosa is reported to favor such an organization and is supporting the State Department's efforts. But the South Korean government is casting some doubts because of its suspicions of Japan's ultimate aims in the light of the present trends in that country.

The various groupings of free nations have promoted since 1949, when the NATO came into being, had as a foundation their protection against the drive of the Communists for world domination. Hence, it became axiomatic that all the members of the NATO, SEATO and now the planned NEATO should be strongly anti-Communist. This is even more important in Asia than in Europe, where the dangers from the USSR appear to some of our allies less immediate.

Japan is in a difficult position. Her government is not politically pro-Communist. But her people and especially her businessmen, industrialists, bankers and exporters look covetously toward the markets of Communist China. Between 1937 and 1945 Japan was thwarted in her plans to conquer China militarily. Her defeat by the United States in 1945 reduced her to shambles and it looked for a while that it would take many generations before she could recover. Thanks to the munif-

cence of the American Government and the efforts of her own people, Japan has staged a recovery which in many respects exceeds that of the "miracle in Germany."

In the meantime, it would be a grave mistake to imagine that the Japanese people have really forgotten the humiliation of the defeat inflicted upon them by American arms. Neither has the idea of recovering the territories lost in the war—Taiwan, Korea and the Ryukyus—been abandoned. But first things must come first. Economically, Japan has now become one of the foremost nations in the world. Next will come the creation of a first-class military establishment.

It is true that under the provisions of the new constitution Japan has been compelled to abandon the use of force. But in the last few years we have encouraged her to start building a new military machine in the hope that it might be used to frustrate the Chinese Communist imperialism. There is some serious doubt that this will be the case.

Japan must find new fields to export her increasingly vast industrial production. Her industrial and business tycoons have their eyes fixed on Communist China as the best and most profitable market. They know that there must be a political alignment with Peiping in order to do business with that Communist empire.

It need not be immediate. Time is of no essence in the Orient. The Kishi government is likely to stand by its present policies of "no diplomatic relations" with the Chinese Communists. But the life of governments in Japan is as precarious as those in France. It is expedient for the Japanese to have a politically anti-Communist oriented ad-

ministration at this time. But in the meantime there is already an important economic and "intellectual" traffic between Japan and the Chinese mainland. Members of parliament, artists, conservative politicians and businessmen frequently cross the Yellow Sea as honored guests of Peiping. Communist representatives of the state-controlled businesses and actors are touring Japan incessantly.

The Communist Party in Japan is negligible. But the Communist subversives are taking full advantage of the dormant nationalism, not to bolster the Marxian doctrines, but to sharpen the feeling of the militarily defeated people against their conqueror who turned out eventually to be their benefactor.

American political leaders realize that a country with a population of 85 million people confined to a territory about the size of California must be given a chance to recover, lest they all become a Communist dependency. But the new underground trends in Japan cause concern to those who fear that Japan's dormant nationalism might soon be resurrected and thus become an important ally of the Communists in their fight against free nations.

In Japan, as in most European countries, international policies are not conducted by sentiment. The possibility of Japan lining up eventually with the Reds is regarded by many American observers as a distinct possibility—and not in the too-far-distant future.

'Ruddigore' Program

The fifth in an annual series of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, "Ruddigore," will be presented by the choir of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church at 8 p.m. nightly tomorrow through Saturday in the church building, Thirteenth street and New York Avenue N.W.

DORIS FLEESON

More Light on Knowland's Plans

Senator's Remarks on California Election
Viewed as Sign He'll Run for Governor

In a recent speech in his home State of California, Senator William F. Knowland promised in effect that the voters were going to be allowed a choice between conservative and liberal principles.

Political observers there promptly banished what little doubt remained in their minds about Knowland's plans to run for Governor of California next year and, if successful, for President in 1960. They consider his remarks an announcement that he is the avowed candidate of traditional as opposed to modern Republicans.

To achieve his aims, Knowland must take on the present popular Governor, Goodwin J. Knight, Washington had assumed that Knight, whose detestation of Vice President Nixon is well known, would make some kind of alliance with Knowland, possibly running for Knowland's seat in the Senate.

California Democrats warn that this isn't necessarily so. Knight, they think, wants so

much to be Governor, he may very well swallow a million harsh words to join the Vice President in stopping Knowland in 1958.

Knight, of course, knows that a freshman Republican Senator winds up on the back row and the District of Columbia Committee. Democratic freshmen get a better break now under the Johnson rule which breaches seniority by giving every Democrat one major committee before any Democrat can get two. G. O. P. leaders have declined to copy this innovation.

Knight will be 64 in January, 1961, the day he would become Senator if he won Knowland's seat. To calculate that his chances of climbing the seniority ladder to prestige and influence here were remote would seem only common sense.

Democrats talk against their own interest when they foresee a Knight-Nixon alliance, isolating Knowland. They would prefer to see Nixon isolated and believe also they could beat Knight for Senator. Labor's present commitment to Knight, they explain,

runs only to the governorship. Their own State ticket in 1958 is expected to be Attorney General Pat Brown for Governor and Representative Clair Engle for Senator. Engle has bristled at Brown's dawdling by starting to campaign for the Senate. Brown's friends, who want him to be Governor but feared he was tempted by the Senate, have begun happily arranging to "draft" him for Governor.

Engle is a vigorous and capable Congressman and an effective chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. He is not well known over the State and will suffer from lack of newspaper support.

Democrats in California have done an excellent job of rebuilding their party and reaching, for control of the Legislature so that in turn they can control the all-important reapportionment in 1960. They are firmly of the liberal school, distressed by the present conduct of the Democratic Congress and so far unable with any unanimity to pick a candidate for the presidential nomination in 1960. Their fate in 1960 will be to a large extent decided by the 1958 struggle within the State.

THOMAS L. STOKES

Block in the Chain of Command

Eisenhower's 'Hands Off' Concept Blamed
For Lack of Pulling Power in Congress

To understand how one of the most popular Presidents in our history is failing to register with his party in Congress despite logical and persuasive appeals for his foreign and domestic programs, it is necessary to consider a factor easily overlooked and beyond those previously discussed here.

This concerns his "hands off" or "arm's length" concept of his leadership role in relation to Congress and the "independent" attitude taken by Republican leaders in Congress who regard themselves as representing the party in Congress, rather than the President. This produces a blockade in the chain of command, to use a phrase which is familiar to the President from his military training.

In a recent news conference, the President said he must work chiefly through the "elected leadership" of Congress.

Which brings us to a part of the "elected leadership" that has become important to his program—that in the Senate. This is because it is the Senate traditionally upon which Presidents have come to rely to protect their programs, among other things, from economy waves in the House, which are normal, by restoring cuts made by the House. House members are most sensitive to sudden emotional upheavals among voters because they must face them every two years.

The "elected" Senate Republican leader is Senator William F. Knowland of California. He holds most devoutly to the concept that the party leader in the Senate represents the party and is expected to express its consensus and does not represent the President or act as an emissary of the White House. Such a relationship is a serious handicap to a President. This view of the party leader in Congress, however, is generally the theory of Republicans, both in House and Senate.

Democrats, on the other hand, incline to the theory that their leaders in Congress carry the flag for the President when the party is in power. That was the rule in the Roosevelt and Truman Democratic regimes preceding the Eisenhower regime.

For a bit of history in illustration, it is recalled that President Roosevelt, who espoused the concept of a strong presidency, twice exerted his influence to bring about selection of party leaders in Congress sympathetic to his viewpoint. Once was in the case of Representative Sam Rayburn of Texas, now Speaker, whom he supported successfully for Democratic floor leader in the House early in his administration against Representative John J. O'Connor of New York, whom he considered less friendly with New Deal objectives. The other case was his support with the famous "Dear Alben" letter of Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, later Vice President under Harry Truman, for Senate Democratic leader against a Southern conservative, Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi. The deciding vote in the Barkley victory was cast by a Midwest Democratic Senator who was rewarded later with a Federal judgeship.

Senator Barkley became angry over President Roosevelt's veto of a tax bill early in the Second World War, the first veto of a tax bill in history. In protest at this "invasion" of Congress's control of the purse, he resigned his leadership. That produced a dramatic episode which, however, lasted only for one day,

for the President prevailed upon his party leader to withdraw his resignation. Congress overrode the President's veto.

The difference in the Democratic and Republican approach to the relation of President and party leaders in Congress is seen in the "team" or "line of command" idea that was dramatized when Senator Barkley resigned over a disagreement with the President—a step to which Senator Knowland apparently has not given the slightest thought. Nor, on the other hand, did it ever occur to President Eisenhower to intrude in selection of a Senate party leader when Senator Robert A. Taft died and when Senator Knowland, who had been picked by Senator Taft as assistant leader, was elected to fill the vacancy by his Republican colleagues.

Senator Knowland not only has differed frequently with President Eisenhower on major issues, a difference that is on an increasingly wider range, but is running for President and playing for support of the conservative, anti-Eisenhower wing of the party. He is opposed to the President's school construction program, and on public record. He would slash at least \$3 billion from the President's budget. He is against continued aid to Marshal Tito and Yugoslavia. He is skeptical of the international atomic energy agency proposed to all nations of the world by the President. He favors the Bricker constitutional amendment to curb presidential authority in conduct of foreign policy.

Though Senator Knowland is retiring from the Senate at the end of the present 85th Congress, and from his post of party leader, he meanwhile could help build up the conservative wing of the party, which already is far more numerous and more powerful in Congress than the Eisenhower wing.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

3-Day Special at House and Herrmann!

Hi-Riser Studio Divan

Sleeps one or two! Clever compact trundle unit rolls out and is easily raised to provide a second bed with its own separate all-steel frame. Complete with two fine quality innerspring mattresses. Use together as double bed or as separate twins... The perfect piece for any room in the house... Ideal convenience for your waterfront home, too! And we'll gladly hold it 'til you're ready.

\$69



Open Thursday Night 'Til 9!

Convenient Terms Arranged

FREE
PARKING
BUS
STOP
OPPOSITE
STORE



"Furniture of Merit Since 1885"
House and Herrmann
7th AND EYE STS N.W.

Mon. & Thurs.:
Open 9:30 a.m. to
9:00 p.m.
Open Daily:
9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.