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MARCH OF EVENTS

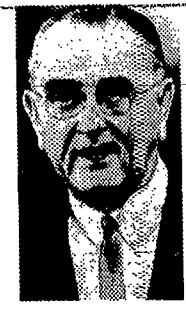
BJ MUST BEAR DOWN ON FEDERAL SPENDING

MILITARY SPENDING UP, BUDGET GOES HAYWIRE

By HENRY CATHCART

Central Press Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—There are well-founded reports in Washington that President Johnson has changed his attitude toward the "guns and butter" stance he took last January when he submitted the government budget for the 12 months ending June 30, 1968.



President Johnson

At the time of that submission, Johnson's budget proposed a leveling off of the spending rate for the military and national security that would have permitted continuation of a politically acceptable level of spending for Great Society programs.

In the intervening months it has become apparent that military spending will mount faster than he estimated originally, that more troops and therefore more materiel support will be required in Vietnam, and that prospects were for a whopping deficit—as much as \$24 billions.

Johnson's economic and military advisers have been telling him all along that Congress will not take his proposals for a tax increase seriously unless serious efforts are made by the administration to cut non-military spending.

His political advisers, on the other hand, have been painting a dark picture of the "liberal" reaction to spending cuts in the Great Society.

The January budget estimates were a compromise between these two positions. For a while Johnson hoped that events would make that budget realistic, but now he has become convinced that he must meet the increased national defense costs, in part at least, by cutbacks in the non-military sectors of the budget.

In the next few weeks, Johnson can be expected to announce sweeping cuts in government non-military spending, with loud cries from the bureaucrats.

MADE IN JAPAN—For those old enough to remember, before World War II, Japan was a great exporter of imitative articles, shoddily built. It was not uncommon, for example, to be able to purchase cheap articles of patriotic significance to U.S. residents, inconspicuously marked "Made in Japan." One enterprising Japanese city even went so far as to change its name to USA, in order to mislead American purchasers with the label "Made in USA."

In recent years Japan has so elevated the quality of its export merchandise as to become the envy of the world. Its precision work in cameras and electronics gadgetry, while still imitative, has in many instances exceeded the high standards of quality of the articles it has copied.

Japanese Products

Excellent

With this background the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is currently being embarrassed by needling suggestions that it could accomplish its space exploration efforts cheaper and more on time if the entire program were subcontracted to the Japanese.

It's a joke, but NASA officials aren't laughing.

Poverty Unit Backs Migrant Pay Raise

Dayton — (NC) — The right of migrant workers to bargain collectively for higher pay and better living conditions is defended in a statement issued by the 17-member Catholic Poverty Commission of Dayton, headed by Auxiliary Bishop Edward A. McCarthy of Cincinnati.

The commission's statement paid tribute to migrant families, most of them Spanish-speaking Americans, for their service to Ohio agriculture. The migrants are needed because the industrialized state of Ohio has no sizable labor pool to meet the seasonal demands of the agricultural economy, the statement said.

The statement, dealing with the problems of migrant families in the Cincinnati archdiocese, also affirmed the right of farmers employing migrants to organize and bargain for fair prices for their products.

The statement said it is a "shocking fact" that a migrant worker's average annual income is only about half of the established "poverty level" of \$3,000.

It recommended that growers' organizations and migrant unions unite in efforts to bargain with processors.

During the harvest season each year there are more than 5,000 members of migrant worker families scattered on farms in 10 of the 19 counties of the archdiocese. The statement

Unity Goal Set for 1970

Toronto — (RNS) — Representatives of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the International Congregational Council agreed here to move toward merger of the two confessional bodies by 1970.

Two joint committees were authorized by the Alliance whose executive committee is holding sessions here and by officials of the ICC who were empowered by their organization to make such decisions.

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Appalachia Gropes to Affluence

Vienna, W. Va. — (NC) — A Presbyterian minister told a Catholic audience here "there is a new American revolution today in Appalachia" whose goal is to make "Appalachians become active socially and politically."

Giving the keynote address at the annual meeting of lawyers sponsored by the Wheeling diocese, the Rev. James Somerville, Presbyterian minister and director of community development for the West Virginia Mountain Project in Whitesville, W. Va., called for action by anyone interested in helping the Appalachians achieve their rightful place in the mainstream of American society today.

After citing his various roles in working in Appalachia in the past few years, Mr. Somerville outlined the work of the West Virginia Mountain Project. He said that despite distribution of "worlds of clothing, the distribution of food, the relocation of miners, cultural trips, Bible schools, and work projects, the best venture is the determination of these people of their own destiny" — a venture in "grass roots energy."

Critical of the present structure of the federal welfare program, the minister said the welfare program will be changed by the recipient. Welfare programs help people exist; the church helps them grow, he said. The church is innovating

changes in the social life of the Appalachians, he added.

Earlier in the two-day program at St. Joseph's Preparatory Seminary here Glenmary Sister Monica Kelly who has worked in the Wheeling diocese for the last nine years, said progress means "bringing people together, enabling them to communicate with one another."

Sister Monica said it is "hard to motivate for change and programs have to be built upon the values, strengths and needs of the people themselves."

The answer to the problems encountered by the Appalachians has to encompass all phases — employment, religion, education and migration.

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Sixth of Way Toward Goal

Geneva — (RNS) — Donations and pledges to the World Council of Churches' appeal for \$2 million to be used in refugee relief in the Middle East has reached \$316,037, according to WCC sources here.

Rehabilitation for those in greatest need is proceeding without respect to nationality or religion, a spokesman said.

Food, medicine and tenting have been sent to Syria, Jordan, Egypt and to territories formerly under Arab control but not held by Israel.

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