

# Washington Report

— By —  
CONGRESSMAN WALTER B. JONES

Capitol Hill continues to be a scene of battle between the Legislative and Executive over whether Congress shall have the say-so as to where reductions in spending should take

place or the President. Again, both branches are aware of the need to achieve a balanced budget as soon as possible, but here the question of priorities takes place with the Executive proposing termination of programs which in the opinion of many of us have proven most beneficial to most of our people. I refer especially to farm programs, and as a result, the House last week by a vote of 269 to 95 approved the continuation

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## Distaff Deeds

# Homemakers Learning To Fix Plumbing Problems

By JANICE CHRISTENSEN

Homemakers in Alexander County are learning to fix drips and leaks in their household plumbing, notes Janie Shipley, assistant home economics extension agent.

The women are being taught to identify the cause of a drippy spout or a leak in the handle of a water faucet. They are learning to recognize a faucet stem and to identify which washer to put in which location to solve the problem.

of the Famers Home Administration emergency loans to disaster areas. This program was terminated by Executive Order on December 27. The plan as approved by the House removes the \$5,000 forgiveness feature, and carries with it a 5 percent interest rate. During the debate it was stated that the President only last week by Executive Order restored the former emergency coverage to four counties in California, while ignoring the rest of the nation.

In addition, the Senate overrode a Presidential Order and reinstated the Rural Electrification Administration loan program.

Many of you have written expressing your approval of reforms which have improved the procedures of the House. So, in the Democratic Caucus last week, by a vote of 83 to 37, action was approved to change the rules so that all Committee meetings, including sessions to vote on bills be open to the public unless the Committee votes in open session at the start of a meeting to close it. Of course, this will require final approval by a vote in the full House. The change will eliminate the long-standing practice of holding hearings in open session, but having a final vote in closed session. This is another in a series of changes that hopefully, will make the House activities more open and more democratic.

I have received expressions from many of you regarding your concern over the proposal to spend billions of dollars to rebuild North Vietnam. At the present I have no intention of voting for any such relief, for I take the position that if Russia and China could finance their fighting activities for these many years, then these two nations have a moral obligation to finance their rehabilitation.

Their teacher, Mrs. M. A. Lackey of Taylorsville, is married to a plumber. Since she often mans the plumbing shop while her husband makes calls, Mrs. Lackey has learned a fair amount of plumbing know-how over the years.

"Many repairs are so simple," Mrs. Lackey adds, "that a homemaker can make them."

"For example, she notes, "the replacement of the tank ball and the adjustment of the rod to the float ball to regulate the level of water are both simple repairs in the water closet."

There's one word of caution Mrs. Lackey would give to would-be plumbers, male or female. "Before you start the job, turn off the water. If you fail to do so before taking the faucet apart," she cautions, "you'll have more than problem plumbing to wade through."

### HIGHLIGHT

A needy family from the Grantham Community, Wayne County, had a Merry Christmas, thanks to the interest and help of Extension staff members and volunteers of the Expanded Nutrition Program.

Without their help, the family's seven small children would have had no Christmas at all.

The assistant agricultural agent provided a red wagon for the family's four-year-old boy, other volunteers furnished toys and food for the family and a gift for each adult. A local grocer contributed fruit.

Santa Claus put the toys in a large bag and delivered them to the children, adds Lois Williams, extension program aide.

"Helping to do this for the family and seeing



RECENT QUEEN . . . Winter may mean ice and snow to many people, but for lovely Gayle Henriksen, Queen of the recent 1973 Miami International Boat Show on Miami Beach, Florida, it means bikinis and boats. This year the MIBS had approximately 525 exhibitors displaying more than \$45 million worth of boats and nautical equipment. It was the largest public marine exposition in the United States and one of the largest in the world.

the joy on their faces was the highlight of my Christmas," she added.

### NEW HOBBY

Sewing has become a new hobby and made a small improvement in the life of a Columbus County girl. The child, who is from a low-income family has always wanted to learn to sew, observes Ann Bobo, assistant home economics extension agent.

Thus far, her interest and efforts have paid off for she has made herself a new skirt and handbag and is starting on her second garment, a jumper.

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