

Washington Report

— By —
CONGRESSMAN WALTER B. JONES

The Congress reconvened on Wednesday, September 5 following a month long recess. Among legislation approved by the House was an extension of the National Flood Insurance Program. In 1969 the Congress for the first time created a flood insurance program. Presently, this coverage involves 2,200 communities with approximately 230 policies outstanding. When this program began it was the thinking of many of us that it would be far better to have insurance than for the Federal Government to have to make emergency grants from time to time.

This action should not be construed as assisting only those who live on the coast, for you will recall that many of the mid-western states suffered severe flood damage in recent months. There are two types of insurance available: 1. a subsidized coverage and the other, a total coverage. The legislation increased the limits of the subsidized coverage for a single family residence from \$17,500 to \$35,000, and in the case of the total coverage, it increased the old limit of \$35,000 to \$70,000 with corresponding increases for other types of operations such as places of business, offices, etc. Among amendments adopted was one that waives the requirement for flood insurance on any State-owned property that is covered under an adequate State policy of self-insurance satisfactory to the Secretary; and most important to the First District was an amendment that extends the flood insurance program to cover losses from erosion and undermining of shorelines.

In other House action, amendments to the present Export Administration act were considered. It was a bill which strengthen the Administration's power to control exports. Under present law, the Secretary of Commerce must wait until there is an actual scarcity of an agricultural commodity before he can impose export controls. The new bill will permit the Secretary of Commerce to impose controls on exports even if the factor of scarcity is nowhere in the picture and even if the demand for the agricultural product is not the major cause of increases in the price of the commodity. As one Member stated, it removes us from a situation of reasonable congressional standards for executive action to one in which for all practical purposes there are no congressional standards at all. With the results of the ill-advised Russian grain deal over one year ago now being felt an acute shortage of grain, spiraling prices, very little of which has helped the American economy, many of us felt that this bill went too far in giving the Administration complete discretion. After rejecting several amendments, most of which in my opinion would have improved the bill, on final passage it was approved 220 to 133. Within the North Carolina delegation, voting against the bill included Congressmen Andrews, Henderson, Jones, Rose, Ruth and Fountain.

Of interest to the sports fans of the District, it is now apparent that legislation will be approved to prohibit TV blackouts of any pro football game where there is a complete sell-out 72 hours prior to game time.

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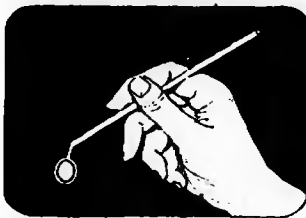
YOU & HEW

Consumer news
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from the
**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
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DEPRESSIVE ILLNESSES —

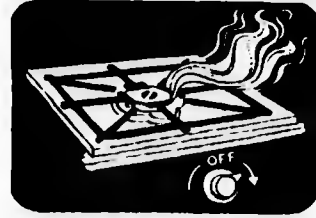
A new HEW pamphlet, *Learning About Depressive Illnesses*, reports that depressive illnesses afflict as many as 8 million Americans. The pamphlet describes for the lay reader how a person's reactions to a sad or disappointing experience may persist abnormally, resulting in serious emotional depression. The pamphlet reports that depressive illnesses respond well to treatment, and explains treatment methods used. Free copies can be obtained by writing to National Institute of Mental Health, Room 15C-17, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20852.



GUARD YOUR TEETH FROM PERIO —

More than 82 million Americans have a gum disease called Perio, the major cause of tooth loss in adults, says HEW's National Institutes of Health. NIH says that Perio and other dental problems can be prevented by proper care and regular dental check-ups. A booklet on Perio is available by writing Division of Dental Health, NIH, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.

For further information on these and any other topics write:
 Information Center, Department of HEW, Washington, D.C. 20201.



CARBON MONOXIDE RISK —

As a follow-up to recent studies showing carbon monoxide in homes causes some 1,400 deaths and 12,000 injuries a year, a team of HEW environmental health specialists is conducting a nationwide carbon monoxide survey this winter. The team is working with health departments in 26 cities to assess the threat of carbon monoxide gas, usually emitted by unvented heating and cooking appliances.

BETTER FOOD LABELING —

HEW's Food and Drug Administration has initiated a program to give consumers better information about the identity, quality and nutritional value of foods by regulating advertising and labeling by food merchandisers. The proposed regulations will put into practice recommendations of the White House Conference on Food, Nutrition and Health. At the same time the new labeling regulations take effect, FDA will launch an education program to tell consumers how to interpret and use the new label information.



FEEDING TIME . . . Earlier this year photographer David Jones spotted a pair of Robins building a nest in a Blue Spruce tree in front of his parents home in Windham Center, Me. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Jones kept an eye on the nest and when the young were born, notified their son who was to take this photo from a makeshift blind some ten feet away. Mother and babies doing nicely thank you, reports Jones.

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