

Text Of President Truman's Address

WASHINGTON, June 30.—(AP)—Text of President Truman's message to Congress today on the rent control extension bill:

I have today signed H. R. 3203, the housing and rent act of 1947, despite the fact that its rent control provisions are plainly inadequate and its housing provisions actually repeal parts of the veterans' emergency housing act which have been most helpful in meeting the housing needs of veterans.

Had I withheld my signature, national rent control would die tonight. It is clear that, insofar as the Congress is concerned, it is this bill or no rent control at all. I have chosen the lesser of two evils.

Without any rent control, millions of American families would face rapidly soaring rents and wholesale evictions. We are still suffering from a critical housing shortage. Many families are desperately seeking homes. In their desperation, they would have to submit to demands or exorbitant presents fewer dangers than would the complete lack of rent control.

I have been confronted with a problem similar to the one which the Congress placed before me in the price control bill which I sent me on June 28, 1946. That bill was so damaging to price control that I vetoed it and addressed the country on the subject. Then, on July twenty-fifth, the Congress sent me a second price control bill, in some respects worse than the first. The time was so late that I had to sign that bill in order to prevent the complete destruction of price control. But effective price control was impossible under the new law.

A basic weakness of the rent

control provisions of the act is the so-called "voluntary" increase of 15 per cent in cases where the landlord and tenant enter into a lease that will continue until December 31, 1948. This is voluntary only so far as the landlord is concerned. Many tenants, however, will feel that there is no choice. The tenant will naturally fear that unless he enters into such a lease he will be subjected to even more exorbitant increases when rent control is ended. Whenever a vacancy occurs, the landlord can refuse to rent except under a lease providing for the rent increase. Many landlords will press for rent increases whether or not there is need for adjustment. Severe hardship will thus be imposed on many tenants. The hardship will be particularly acute in the case of veterans, who comprise such a large portion of those seeking rental housing accommodations.

The act also weakens the protection against eviction which is necessary for effective rent control, and completely removes the protection of rent control in many cases where it is still badly needed. Administration of the law will be made more complex by the injection of new procedures and will be made less effective by the weakening of enforcement provisions.

All of this represents the abandonment of a system which has been both fair and effective. In its administration of rent control, the federal government has made every effort to give full protection to both landlords and tenants. The net rental income of landlords today is substantially higher than in the pre-war years of 1939 and 1940, or in the previous decade. Provisions for granting rent increases in meritorious cases have been liberalized and simplified. Over one million rent increases have been granted. Controls have been removed in cases where the need no longer appeared acute. These steps and many more have been taken to keep the administration of rent control simple. Practicable, and fair and to prevent hardship. This has been accomplished with-

out permitting substantial increases in the general rent level. Since federal rent control is being irreparably weakened, I appeal to the governors of the states—particularly those populous states where rental housing is more prevalent—to exert every effort to protect tenants from hardship, eviction or exploitation. They can soften, although not avoid completely, the blow to rent control dealt by H. R. 3203.

The housing and rent act of 1947 also marks a step backward in our efforts to solve the critical problem of providing sufficient additional housing for our citizens. It repeals almost all the emergency aids to housing provided in the veterans' emergency housing act of 1946.

If I had vetoed H. R. 3203, rent controls would end, and the prospects of another bill being sent to me would be negligible. I had no choice but to sign.

It is clear that this legislation marks a step backward in our efforts to protect tenants against unjustified rent increases arising out of war conditions. For millions of families, it will result in substantial increases in rents which until now have been held at reasonable levels. The cost of living is already too high without this additional burden.

It is evident that the present high cost of living should not be increased further by a sharp increase in rents. We must get prices down, not devise means of getting the price of shelter up.

Since the end of price control, the consumer price index has risen 17 per cent. Food has gone up 29 per cent. During the second quarter of 1947, we have made real progress in checking these sharp price increases. On the whole, prices and the cost of living have leveled off. This progress—and the further progress we must make—must be nullified for millions of families by higher rents. Rents amount to 25 per cent to 35 per cent of many family budgets. Rent increases could revive the inflationary dangers which we have greatly reduced.

In January 1946, I recommended the enactment of legislation to meet an immediate emergency in housing. I recommended that the housing expediter be given the necessary powers to expedite the production of building materials and the construction of houses.

The Congress responded to my recommendations by passing the Veterans' Emergency Housing Act of 1946. With the emergency measures provided by that act, the supply of building materials has increased tremendously and the number of new homes built has increased at a rate surpassing our best pre-war achievements.

In February 1946, I recommended the program was announced in that year 670,500 permanent family housing units, in addition to over 300,000 units of other types, had been started. In the first five months of this year 280,300 new permanent family dwelling units were begun, and 300,000 were completed. Although this accomplishment is heartening, it is not enough.

H. R. 3203 will weaken rather than strengthen our means for greater achievement.

The most serious loss in housing aids under this act is the virtual elimination of controls which have prevented the diversion of building materials from homes to nonessential and deferrable construction. As the supply of build-

ing materials has increased, the housing expediter has eased and simplified controls over materials and construction. Those which were retained were necessary and important, however, and their removal by this act may prove disastrous to home building.

The increased demand for materials and labor resulting from removal of these controls may decrease in building costs and may even result in further cost increases. Already many veterans are unable to pay for homes at present cost levels, and this will further aggravate their problems. Moreover, delays in the completion of veterans' hospitals and of other essential construction will result from the increased competition for materials and labor.

It is of deep concern to me that this most unsatisfactory law represents the only major action taken by the Congress at this session with regard to the housing problem which confronts the nation. We should be taking steps to provide additional aids to housing, rather than eliminating the aids which have been in effect.

On many occasions I have placed housing high on the list of subjects calling for decisive congressional action.

On September 6, 1945, in my message to the Congress, I called attention to the shortage of decent homes and the enforced widespread use of substandard housing and warned that the housing shortage would become more acute as veterans returned and began to look for places to live. I urgently recommended that the Congress enact comprehensive housing legislation to meet this problem. My proposals were directed especially to the needs of those families of low or moderate income who cannot buy or rent high priced houses. The overwhelming majority of veterans need such legislation for this reason.

On January 14, 1946, in the message on the state of the union, I again emphasized that we faced a major post-war housing problem. I recommended that the seventy-ninth Congress promptly enact general legislation for a comprehensive housing program along the lines of the Wagner-Ellender-Taft bill then under consideration. The senate approved the bill, but the house of representatives was denied the opportunity to vote by delaying tactics within one of its committees.

On January 6, 1947, in the message of the state of the union, I again recommended action by the eightieth congress on comprehensive housing legislation. Such legislation has been introduced and favorably reported to the senate during this session, but has not yet been passed by either the senate or the house of representatives.

The obligation upon the federal government is one which cannot be ignored.

Again I urge the congress to complete action upon legislation to accomplish the following objectives:

1. To provide public aid to localities for low rent housing for

families in the lowest income group.

2. To encourage private investment in rental housing by federal insurance.
3. To provide a more adequate program of farming.
4. To extend aid to our cities for the clearance of slums and blighted areas and to perfect and supplement aids to home financing.
5. To provide a substantial program of housing research to assist industry in progressively reducing the cost of housing.

Means are at hand for the prompt enactment of legislation which will go far toward accomplishing these objectives. I refer to the Taft-Ellender-Wagner bill now before the senate. This bill has been developed after long and careful consideration of our housing needs, these needs are known. Now is the time for action to set in motion a comprehensive program which will assure the greatest possible number of Americans a decent place to live in a decent environment, at a cost they can afford.

In the face of our acute need for more effective aid for housing, it is unthinkable that the congress would actually take steps to make more difficult or even impossible the efficient administration of the government's present activities relating to housing and home finance. Yet, I fear that this may happen.

The house of representatives has already indicated its disapproval of a reorganization plan which would preserve the grouping of our principal housing functions in a single establishment. The administration of these functions within a single establishment is essential if our housing policies are to be carried out with a consistency of purpose and a minimum of duplication. I strongly urge that this plan be allowed to become effective.

Another danger threatening even the existing aids to housing and home financing arises from the action of the house of representatives upon the appropriations for the national housing agency, including the office of the administrator and the constituent agencies. The drastic cuts made by these appropriations, if they are allowed to stand, will seriously handicap the efforts of both government and private enterprise. The effectiveness of the national housing agency will be greatly impaired. If we are to have an effective housing program now and in the future, this agency must have adequate funds and personnel.

A continuing high volume of home-building activity is essential to provide decent housing for all the people. It is equally important because of its contribution to the maintenance of prosperity and full employment. Home-building should provide continuous employment to several million workers, directly or indirectly, and be a strong support to the rest of the economy when postwar restocking is over and when the extraordinary foreign demand for American products has leveled off. In the past, this major industry has been an unstable element in between boom conditions and almost complete stagnation. Without the national economy, fluctuating effective action, it cannot contribute its full share to the maintenance of high levels of production and employment.

The Wilmington Aero Club's activities during recent months has included several breakfast "hops" to sites in the southern skyways. Planes from Carolina Skyways, Wilmington Air Park and Pennington's Flying Service participated in the day's activities.

Guyton Prepares For New Post GREENVILLE, S. C., June 30.—(AP)—Dr. C. L. Guyton, city health officer, today prepared to close out official duties here prior to accepting a post with the newly created South Carolina Hospital Advisory council.



JANE AND JEAN CUNNINGHAM (left and right, we think), 18-year-old identical twins who constituted a single entry in the "Miss Chattanooga" beauty contest, wear their title ribbon and hold the cup they won in Chattanooga, Tenn., when judges awarded them the title as an entry. It was a simple case of "two" much beauty for the judges. The twins next seek the "Miss Tennessee" crown. Jane and Jean are instructors at a Chattanooga Dancing school. (AP Photo).

Today And Tomorrow

By WALTER LIPPMANN

The Veto Overridden

We now have a labor law which the President, who must administer it, has said is unworkable and unjust. Therefore, if the results are as bad as the President predicted, his Republican and Democratic opponents on this issue will say that he caused the law to fail: that he encouraged resistance to the law and did not administer it sincerely. If, on the other hand, the law works out better than he says it will, he will have refuted his own arguments for vetoing it.

A dilemma of this kind, when so much is at stake as in labor relations, could not be posed in Canada, Great Britain, or in any other country which has a democratic government. There would be a new administration, once the legislature had expressed itself as decisively as did the Congress in overriding the President's opposition. For a new administration headed by Messrs. Taft and Hartley, and composed of men who believe in the law, would take office to administer it.

There would then be no confusion of responsibility about its success or its failure. Mr. Truman would be out of office, free to hold Mr. Taft accountable for the consequences of Mr. Taft's law. But under our system Mr. Taft is still in the opposition, free to hold Mr. Truman accountable for the success of the law that Mr. Taft wrote and Mr. Truman denounced.

In saying this I am not suggesting that our Presidential system can or will be altered, and a system of parliamentary government put in its place. There are enormous advantages in our system, not the least of them being that we are used to it. But every system of government has its disadvantages, and there is no doubt that President Truman's dilemma illustrates sharply our greatest weakness of our system.

It is that when the people decide to change the direction and policy of the government, it takes them several years to change it. It takes them two years to change the House of Representatives, four years to change the Executive, and it may take as much as four to change the Senate. During the period of change, when one party is coming into power by installments and the other is going out of power by installments, authority is divided. There is an interregnum. Mr. Truman is President during such an interregnum, and his position is all the worse in opposing the will of a Congress, which was recently elected by the people, because he happens never to have been elected President of the United States, and therefore to have only a nominal, an ex officio, mandate from the people.

The problem of the labor law has been whether enough common sense and good will could be mustered to overcome the inherent difficulties when the President belongs to one party and the Congress to the other. In the field of foreign relations that has in-

considerable measure been done because there the patriotic feeling that politics should stop at the water's edge is a powerful offset to partisanship.

But in the domestic affairs—particularly in such matters as taxation and labor laws—it is much harder to legislate by agreement of the parties. The issues are not the sort on which the whole people can be expected to agree. They are issues which have to be decided by majority rule and the minority must not be asked to agree with the verdict but only to accept it loyally and with good grace.

Mr. Truman has ample notice that this Congress held a mandate from the people to write a law for the purpose of reducing the power of organized labor in American society. What should he have done? I think he should have told Congress explicitly and specifically while the law was in the making which provisions he would approve and which he could not approve. He should not have made a mystery of his position if he intended to take part in the lawmaking process by exercising his veto. He should either have abstained entirely by not using his veto or have taken a responsible part in shaping the legislation while it was in the works.

Then, even if he had failed to achieve a compromise which he could approve, he would not be in his present dilemma of having to enforce a law which he has totally disapproved. He would be enforcing a law which in certain specific respects he disapproves and he could then have asked

Congress to observe the supposed defects of the law and to amend them later on.

The general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, Gerhard P. Van Arkel, has signed for the sound reason he does not believe in the law and, therefore, ought not to administer it. Obviously Mr. Van Arkel is not going to follow Mr. Arkel's example. But it seems to me clear that the law to act in the spirit of Mr. Arkel's action.

He ought to ask the whole National Labor Relations Board resign, and he ought to ask leaders of the Republican-Democratic coalition, which overrode his veto, to submit an agreed-upon list of candidates from whom he should select men to administer the law. Then the law will be in the hands of men who believe in it, and President will, after making protest, have accepted the unobjectionable and unchallengeable dict of the Congress.

hear!

WITH THE NEW TELEX 97

A new hearing aid of unsurpassed beauty and performance. Excellent sound aperture is recessed to eliminate clothing noise. Most power in a one-piece unit than ever thought possible.

Will Be At The Wilmington Hotel, Wilmington, N. C., JULY 2 Telex Hearing Center 1408 Independence Bldg. Charlotte, N. C.

GOT MALARIAL CHILLS, FEVER?

GET 666, NOW WITH QUININE-PLUS 3 OTHER MALARIA-FIGHTING MEDICINES!

Steady of millions in 45 years—now amazing 666 brings you not only Quinine, but 3 additional malaria-fighting medicines—combined with Quinine as Torquinol! Caution: Take only as directed. Ask for 666 today!

666 Liquid for MALARIAL SYMPTOMS

NOTICE

The General Assembly of North Carolina has enacted—G. S. 105-422 barring tax liens for 1936 and prior years. That this act shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 1947. This act provides for the institution of suits prior to December 31, 1948, so that the city of Wilmington and New Hanover County can protect their claims against all parties owing taxes prior to 1937. All persons owing taxes for the above years, suit will be brought immediately.

DELINQUENT TAX DEPT.

Air Conditioned
BAILEY
Today & Wed.
A Miracle Of Joyous Entertainment!

MAUREEN O'HARA
JOHN PAYNE
Miracle on 34th Street

Bugs Bunny Cartoon!
Shows 1:15-3:11
5:07-7:03-9:00

Merry MIDNIGHT SHOW
Thursday Night 11:30 O'CLOCK!
Featuring Special Preview Showing of "THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN"

Laugh Riot - Starring RAY MILLAND TERESA WRIGHT BRIAN DONLEVY
All Seats 50c (Inc. Tax) AIR CONDITIONED
BAILEY

BIJOU
TODAY - WEDNESDAY
Here's The Big Thrill Show You Have Been Waiting For!

3-BIG SHOWS
Chapter No. 1 Of Our New Thrill Serial

The CRIMSON GHOST
CHARLES BOUDLEY - LINDA STIRLING
RAYSON MOORE - STANFORD JOBLEY

Last Chapter "CHICK CARTER DETECTIVE"

BOB STEELE
In "COLORADO KID"

FAMILY PRICES 20¢ Plus Tax

ROYAL
TODAY

Prices Always 25c Plus Tax

Loretta YOUNG
David NIVEN
In "THE PERFECT MARRIAGE"

Added Popular Science No. 1

It's Happier Than Heaven... The Hit of '47!

ALLIED ARTISTS PRODUCTIONS, INC. presents
DON ANN CHARLES VICTOR GALE
DeFORE · HARDING · RUGGLES · MOORE · STORM

"It couldn't have happened to a more fascinating collection of people... in a grander, more heart-warming, fun-filled movie!"

On the street where anything can happen... One wonderful night everything did!

IN ROY DEL RUTH'S
"IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE"

GUARANTEE!
For one of the very few times in many years of showing motion pictures, we take this means to announce publicly a flat guarantee concerning one of our attractions. Without reservation, we go on record as saying that "IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE", will serve to give more enjoyment to more people than any other movie we have ever played.

We guarantee that "IT HAPPENED ON 5TH AVENUE" is the happiest thing that has ever happened on our screen!

Shows Starts 12:40 2:35 4:40 6:50 9:00

BOB HOPE SAYS — "Loaded with Happiness!"
AL JOLSON... "One of the Best!"
JIMMY DURANTE... "It's Sumptuous!"
JACK BENNY... "One of the finest of all time!"

Matinee 50c Plus Night 40c Tax
Kids Only 9c

5 Refreshing Days, Starting Today!
CAROLINA

TECHNICOLOR NOVELTY... "MANHATTAN ISLAND"

DRIVE-IN-THREATRE
Midway between Wilmington and Carolina Beach

Mon.-Tues.
"Jimmy Steps Out"
—With— James Stewart
and Paulette Goddard
Selected Shorts
2 Shows Nightly Starting 8 & 10
25¢ ADMISSION

MANOR THEATRE
See it with someone you LOVE!
ROBERT TAYLOR
—in—
MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION
—Plus—
IRENE DUNNE
—Plus—
Cartoon News
OPEN 19:45 A. M. DAILY!



Will the 4th of July be 'Labor Day' for you?..

Lots of things could go wrong to spoil that wonderful weekend trip you've planned. Big things... like tire or engine trouble. Little things... like windshield wiper failure during a summer storm. Troublesome things... like a burned-out headlight. Upsetting things... like the wrong road without a good road map.

Why not let your nearby Esso Dealer keep the fun in your Fourth with a thorough car-check? He knows what your car needs for hot weather performance. He'll inspect... lubricate... and put it in top-notch running shape for that big 3-day weekend or vacation trip you're starting.

JUST A WORD OF ADVICE—don't wait too long. You can avoid the last-minute rush by taking the car to your Esso Dealer's now... today. While you're there, get a free, accurate Esso Road Map of the roads you plan to travel.

AND ONE OTHER SUGGESTION... have your Esso Dealer put in fresh, long-lasting Esso Motor Oil—it's unexcelled. Then fill 'er up with powerful Esso Extra Gasoline and you'll be off to a lively start... a great holiday weekend—and remember when you're at the wheel that CAREFUL DRIVING PAYS!

Your Esso Dealer has the New **ATLAS** Tire

See today's big tire value—the husky new ATLAS, with the road-proved Grip-Safe tread! Have worn tires replaced before that trip with this long-mileage beauty placed before that trip with this long-mileage beauty—a great road performer that will add enjoyment and extra safety to your summer driving.

ONLY ESSO DEALERS sell the ATLAS Tire, backed by a liberal make-good warranty that is good at 38,000 Dealers on the road throughout the United States and Canada! In our honest opinion, there's no better tire value than ATLAS!

Esso DEALER
The Sign of Happy Motoring

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF NEW JERSEY
FOOT OF BRUNSWICK STREET, WILMINGTON