

Washington News

Washington, D. C.—The new Congress, meeting January 9th, will almost certainly go slow on much of the Kennedy Administration program. The easiest bills to pass were passed in the first Kennedy Congress and, except in the Senate, sentiment hasn't been changed a lot by the recent elections.

One of the big issues is federal aid to education. The President's bill is not likely to be passed by this Congress, mainly because of an effort by some to get public money for their parochial schools—and the resulting opposition from the majority.

The truth is that the wall between church and state, as we have observed it, has been cracked steadily by Congress on the educational front for many years. And although, ironically, President John Kennedy is a Roman Catholic, opposing public money for parochial schools, Congress almost opened the door to it at its last session.

For the first time in the country's history the people of the United States have a Catholic leader in both house of Congress and a Catholic President. Speaker John McCormack, in

the House, is considered an advocate of public aid to parochial schools. Senator Mike Mansfield, Senate Majority Leader, was apparently going along last summer with a compromise which would have opened the door.

Would President John Kennedy, himself a Catholic, have vetoed such a bill? Some Catholics thought not. But Kennedy has not dodged this issue and he has repeatedly expressed the view that public funds cannot constitutionally be allocated to private or religious schools. Congress is set to get around this—on the college level—by voting a program of student aid. This would give the money to the student and let him turn it over to the school.

Congress was also getting set to circumvent the issue on the construction question by merely stating that public money given to private and parochial schools could not be used for religious purposes. This was attacked as a flim-flam. Many took it to be nothing but a play on words, for obviously money, given a private college or university for construction could be allotted to "non-religious" buildings, and

the college or university could use the money it would have applied in this direction for religious purposes.

This will be a big and quiet issue in the new Congress.

The President will push hospital care for the aged but his medicare program seems doomed by the 1962 vote.

Foreign aid seems sure to be trimmed. A campaign against it has already been started by the Congressman who probably knows more about it than any other—Otto Passman, Louisiana Democrat, who leads the house group which screens the program.

Defense spending is expected to go up—by about three billion dollars. Yet little new hardware is being acquired. The bulk of this money goes to increased operational costs and pay and allowances and retirement—though some goes for research and outer space work.

Public works spending will be high and there may not be the tax cut most taxpayers have been expecting. If Congress does vote one, as President Kennedy has suggested, it may be less than anticipated and it may not take effect until July, instead of January, 1963. The Congress is generally expected to be a middle-of-the-run Congress, and even avid liberals know any new march toward the New Frontier will have to await the 1964 elections when President Kennedy will be running again.

The business news of recent weeks has dissipated just about all expectation of a recession in the first half of 1963. The general opinion now is that business will continue on a satisfactory level, at worst, in the first half of 1963. Some few economists predict a minor down turn in mid-1963, but most of them expect a pick-up later in 1962.

No boom is forecast but good business is expected for the year 1963 as a whole.

The American Foundation for the Blind conducts one of the most extensive deaf-blind workshops in the United States. Besides offering in-service training for teachers of deaf-blind children, the AFB also gives direct counsel to their parents, while providing numerous scholarships for these doubly handicapped young people.

Soviet party demands consumer goods stress.

Auto Dealers Are Cooperating In Seat Belt Crusade

Raleigh.—North Carolina new car dealers are continuing their support in the nation-wide "Women's Crusade for Seat Belts," Bessie B. Ballentine, executive secretary of the North Carolina Dealers Association, said this week.

Automobile dealers throughout the state are cooperating with the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs in the crusade to aid in attaining increased seat belt use by all car owners, according to Mrs. Ballentine. The campaign will conclude at the end of this month. Goal of the crusade is "Two million and two in '62."

Mrs. Joe Teague of Smithfield, safety chairman for the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs, suggests that we "give safety for Christmas" by purchasing seat belts.

In pointing out some of the advantages of regular seat belt use, Mrs. Ballentine stated that an automotive seat belt is the most effective single item of protective equipment presently available to help reduce the toll of traffic injuries and deaths.

"The chances of being killed in an accident are five times greater if you are thrown from a vehicle. A seat belt will help keep you in the car and thus avoid that 'second' crash of impact in an accident," she said.

"Many people mistakenly believe they do not need to use seat belts because they drive mostly in their own communi-

ties rather than on long trips," she continued. "But, research findings show that three out of four traffic accidents involving injury or death occur at speeds of less than 40 miles an hour."

Aiding the sponsoring groups in their seat belt crusade are

the National Automobile Dealers Association, the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association, automobile and tire manufacturers, American Medical Association, American Seat Belt Council, American Trucking Association, Automotive

Safety Foundation, Kiwanis International, National Highway Users Conference, National Safety Council, National Tire Dealers and Retreaders Association, Outdoor Advertising Association, Inc., U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, and U. S.

Public Health Service—Accident Prevention Division.

The crusade provides public support for the "Action Program" of the President's Committee for Traffic Safety.

TRADE AT HOME

Greetings and Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas

May the blessings of this beautiful season bring you joy and happiness!



CAUDILL'S, Inc.

E. King St.

Boone, N. C.

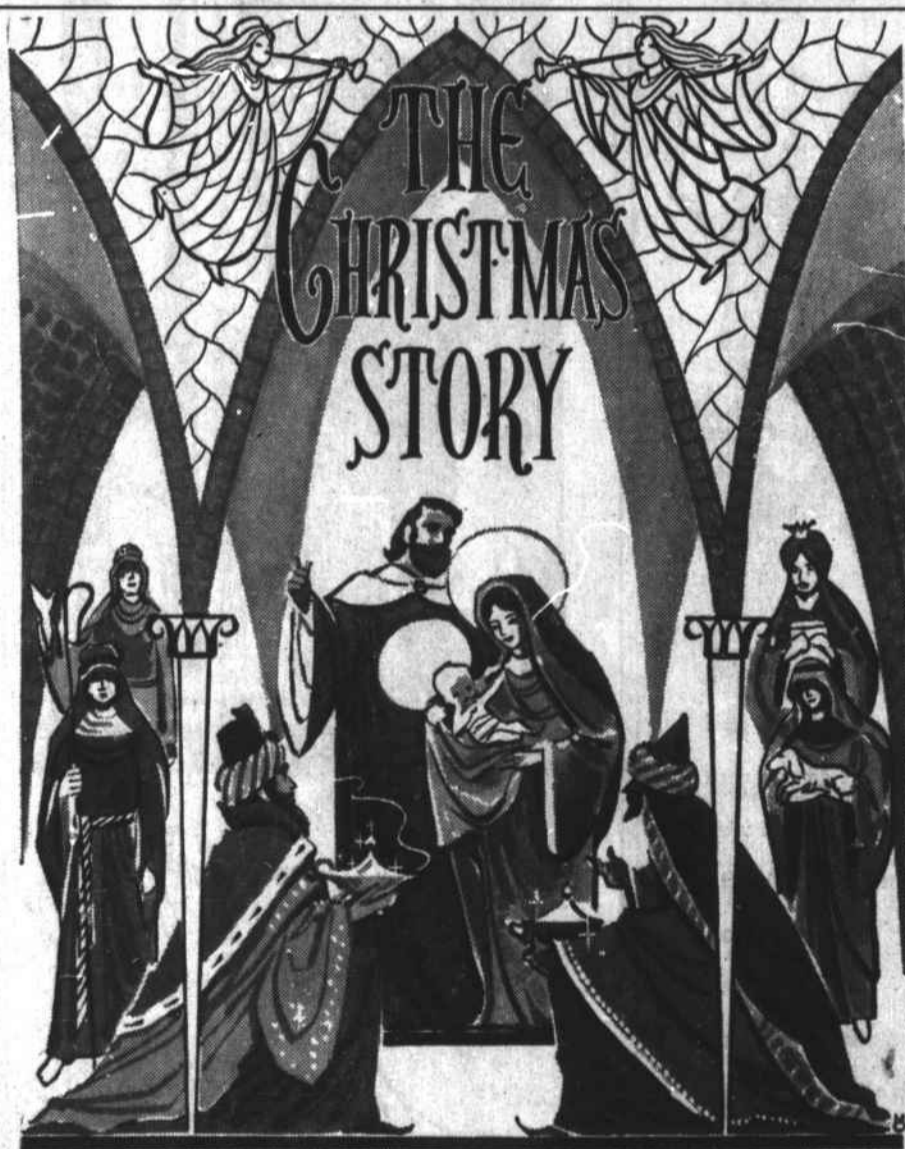


All systems are "go" . . . and so are our wishes to you, for a "way-out" Christmas Season!

MOTOR PARTS AND SUPPLY CO.

N. Depot St.

Boone, N. C.



THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Once again we pause to observe, and gather new inspiration from the age-old story . . . the birth of our Saviour . . . and His divine, eternal presence. May every joy and blessing of this Holy Season come to you and your loved ones, bringing peace and happiness . . . making spirits bright!

Smithey's Store

W. King St.

Boone, N. C.



Star of Wonder...

The miraculous light of a star shone in the heavens, and angel voices heralded the coming of the Saviour, on that Holy Night nearly two thousand years ago. May the spirit of the Nativity . . . the awe and wonder of simple shepherds, the rejoicing and reverence of the wise men . . . be with us in this blessed Christmas season, and may it inspire us always in our hope for peace, brotherhood and understanding.



THE NORTHWESTERN BANK