

SENATOR
SAM ERVIN
SAYS



Washington—On the eve of the convening of the 85th Congress, there is mounting evidence that the Administration will not seek tax cuts.

Tax Relief
Tax relief is long overdue. There is no question that the inordinate amount of dollars taken from the citizen to support all levels of government is staggering. The outlook for cuts is bleak.

Why is this so? The growing tension in the world has again emphasized what I have always believed to be a certainty, namely that proper defense must be maintained. My quarrel with the international policies of the Administration has been that foreign economic aid was failing to accomplish that which it was intended to accomplish and that, in fact, was causing many people of the world to turn from us.

What Will Congress Do?
It is my view at the moment that Congress will give the President necessary money to carry on a program of adequate defense. The people demand this. Unless Congress is convinced that the Administration's request sufficiently covers the defense needs of this

critical time, I am confident sufficient funds will be appropriated by Congress.

While we are awaiting the President's proposals, I believe the tenor of the Congress is to provide money for nations who are contributing to the strength of the free world's struggle with communism. In some instances, there undoubtedly will be increases in foreign economic and military assistance. I hope that we will have time to carefully look at these requests to cut out the unnecessary items that have a habit of recurring. It is not easy.

Confusion
I have just read the story of the confused printer who rented a room in Washington the other day and never returned to occupy it. He forgot where the room was located.

My observation to this is that some confusion does exist outside the government. Unfortunately, some public officials seem to be as confused as the printer.

New Year
I hope that the New Year provides everyone a measure of health, happiness and prosperity.

60-SECOND
SERMONS

— By —
FRED DODGE

TEXT: "Character is a by-product of doing one's daily duty."
—Woodrow Wilson

When Bishop Phillips Brooks made his list trip from America to Europe, a friend jokingly remarked that while abroad he might discover some new religion to bring him with him.

"Be careful, Bishop Brooks," a listener warned, "It may be difficult to get your new religion through the Customs House."

"I guess not," replied the Bishop, laughing, "for we may take it for granted that any new religion popular enough to import, will have no duties attached to it."

It is the duties attached to a character which make it different from a reputation. A reputation is like a gift or a garment. We may have it given to us. We may wear it. It is not always a part of us. It is what we are thought to be.

A man's character is something which he moulds, alone. It is what is left after he rubs against life. Some wear away. Others endure. They perform the duties that smooth their rough edges. What remains is character, polished and strong.

A reputation may be dimmed, but a character tested by the duties it has assumed, remains shining with a beauty that never fades.

by Congress.
Hopes of economy-minded members of Congress for huge savings in foreign aid—which would contribute to tax reduction—have been dashed by the Suez crisis.

Congress is certain to aid western European allies; in spite of frequent criticism of Britain and France, Congress believes the United States and western European nations must stick together.

The danger in the situation— from the standpoint of Congress-

ional economy leaders—is that necessities growing out of the Suez crisis will be magnified into a new global Marshall plan which would unduly penalize American taxpayers.

Recognizing this danger, Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey—a vigilant watch-dog of the Treasury—declares that the needs of western Europe as a result of the Suez crisis have been greatly exaggerated. He seeks to draw a line between common-sense aid and extravagant spending.

Preliminary estimates indicate Administration recommendations for loans and grants which would boost last year's \$3.8 billion foreign aid program to more than \$5 billion.

Keeping Discriminatory Excise Taxes—Retention of excise taxes which discriminate between various segments of industry is now being predicted by key Congressional tax leaders.

The pre-session predictions, of course, are not necessarily accurate; a spurge in Treasury revenues, an economy spree by Congress, or pressure from back home could change the situation.

But disappointment is voiced by spokesmen for numerous industries who dislike to see excise tax discrimination continued year after year. Under this condition, some businesses find their products subject to heavy excise taxes while their competitors escape them.

On occasion in the last few years Congress has abolished or modified some discriminatory taxes. But the approximate \$1 billion of ex-

cise and transportation levies—war taxes scheduled to end next April 7—have been extended repeatedly. Administration spokesmen oppose ending of these levies. Some suggestions have been made before the House Ways and Means Committee, investigating excise taxes, that the so-called temporary wartime increases be made permanent. And, thus, discrimination may be made permanent.

Subsidy Trouble—The inevitable squabbles which grow out of distribution of Federal Treasury subsidies—among other things the demands of politicians to expand them—are now appearing in connection with the soil-bank program.

Designed as a temporary measure to remove surpluses, and thus let normal economics become effective, the soil-bank could easily be transformed into a farm welfare program.

One of the first protests over payments arose from Congressmen from tobacco-growing states. They insist that payments be increased.

Demands have appeared for an increase in the price support plans for corn, together with an increase in acreage allowances.

New-Fair Deal Senators are clamoring for an investigation of the soil-bank plan as administered by Secretary of Agriculture Benson.

Thus far Mr. Benson appears to have strong backing from the Administration in his effort to remove farm surpluses, and to work toward a sound agricultural economy without drastic regimentation.

A secret is too little for one, enough for two, and too much for three. —Howell.
When clouds are seen, wise men put on their cloaks. —Shakespeare.



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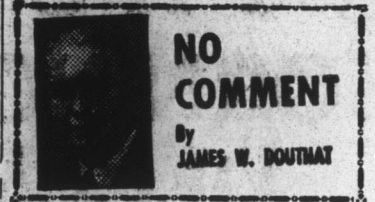
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Washington—The big issue in the annual foreign aid battle in Congress this winter will be: "How much more?" In contrast, the question for several years has been how much foreign aid would be cut

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