

No Comment

By JAMES W. DOUTHAT
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"NO COMMENT" is a report of incidents on the national scene and does not necessarily reflect NAM policy or position.

Washington — The federal budget is the most critical problem facing the new Congress, many thoughtful legislators believe; and they are determined to do something about it.

Key factors in the effort to bring federal spending under control will be: the upcoming budget recommendations of the Administration, the attitude of Congress, especially the 33 members of the Senate Appropriations Committee and the 49 members of the House committee — but most important the amount of sincere, genuine support from "back home" for drastic budget cutting.

As matters stand now, it appears that the government will run a \$12 billion deficit for the 1959 fiscal year which ends June 30, 1959. Planning for the 1960 budget is now well under way and it will be completed and ready for submission to Congress in January.

"We don't expect to leap from a \$12 billion deficit this year to a balanced budget next year," Director of the Budget Maurice S. Stans said recently. "It takes time to work our way back but there are hopeful signs."

"The recovery in the economy is real and it will continue. If present tax rates are held firm, receipts in fiscal 1960 from individuals, corporations and excise taxes should improve considerably. By the same token, further government spending to accelerate recovery will not be necessary. So, we believe we can narrow the gap represented by this year's deficit."

Of course, the Bureau of the Budget can only make recommendations to Congress. Congress, itself, has the final word on how much money will be appropriated. This point was brought out during the recent political campaign, with Republicans charging that the Democrat-controlled Congress had appropriated substantially more funds than requested or thought desirable by the Administration.

Representative Leslie Arends (R-Ill.) made an analysis of the appropriations bills passed during the last session and determined that Congress appropriated a net amount of \$5 billion more than requested by the President. Representative Arends also pointed out that in the President's budget for 1959 there were 16 economy proposals which, if enacted, would have produced future annual budget savings of \$3½ billion.

Economy minded members of Congress are becoming increasingly concerned over the country's fiscal course. Clarence Cannon (D-Mo.), chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, recently said, "The fiscal situation is alarming. It will get worse — much worse. And the alarming thing is that nobody is alarmed. Propositions to spend money we do not have for things we can do without are coming from all directions without any regard for the fact the treasury is empty." Senator Williams (R-Del.) says, "Our financial situation in America faces a crisis. Either we have to cut down spending—raise taxes—or face ruinous inflation." Senator Byrd (D-Va.), adds, "The free world is dependent upon the strength of America, and the strength of America depends upon



MOUSETERIOUS — Upside-down walking is possible for this "space mouse," because his feet are shod with tiny magnets. He and a number of his fellows are used to study problems of gravity in the ultracentrifuge at the Air Force School of Aviation Medicine, Pensacola, Fla.

solvent government and maintaining the value of our dollar." Despite the seriousness of the situation, the self-styled liberals of the new Congress will push for more and bigger spending programs. It has been pointed out that if eight major legislative proposals in the last session had been approved, they would have cost the taxpayers more than \$180 billion in the next five years. These included proposed expenditures, such as \$58 billion for aid to education, \$36 billion to maintain farm earnings and \$14 billion for public works.

It is a certainty that advocates of these proposals will again attempt to push them through when Congress reconvenes.

The pressure groups for spending programs are highly organized, articulate, aggressive groups. Their influence can only be countered by equal organization, vigilance and aggressiveness in behalf of government economy.

BAPTIST MISSION STUDY CLASS MEETS TONIGHT
The Woman's Missionary Society of the Edenton Baptist Church will have its mission study book taught at the church tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 o'clock. Mrs. Bertha Dale will teach the book, "Into a New World." All members are espe-

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