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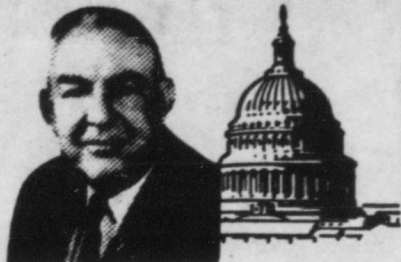
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SENATOR SAM ERVIN

☆ SAYS ☆



WASHINGTON--The power of the purse has become embroiled in a major dispute between the President and the Congress in recent months.

At stake are billions of dollars of highway and public works funds which the Administration is refusing to spend after Congress has appropriated them. According to testimony recently given by Deputy Director Caspar W. Weinberger of the Office of Management and Budget, approximately \$12.7 billion for the current fiscal year has been impounded, a phrase used to denote the non-spending of funds after Congress has appropriated them. Paradoxically, nearly half of the impounded monies are trust funds collected through user taxes for the building of interstate highways. Other "frozen funds" have been blocked for demonstrated public needs.

Last month, the Subcommittee of Separation of Power of which I am Chairman, held three days of hearings on the general subject of impoundment of Congressionally-appropriated funds by the Executive branch of the Government. During these hearings, I pointed out that under the Constitution the Congress has the power of the purse, but if it permits the President to impound or place in budgetary reserves such sums as he pleases, in effect, it is allowing the President to exercise an item veto which is denied him by the Constitution. Such a practice also permits the President to usurp the congressional power of establishing spending priorities. Thus, Congress is in danger of losing one of the few powers of consequence that it has left.

Frankly, I think it would have been better if the Constitution had given the President an item veto, but the fact is that it does not. Within the near future, I plan to introduce a bill to require the President, whenever he impounds funds appropriated by Congress for a specific project, to report his action to Congress and let his action lie before Congress for a period of 60 days. If Congress votes to veto the impoundment, then it would become the duty of the President in the execution of his constitutional obligation to see that the laws are faithfully executed to carry out the specific expenditure.

I believe in a balanced budget, but I do not believe that the President should exercise what amounts to an item veto without some method by which Congress can reassert its will.

I would go along with the President's action if impoundment were undertaken to balance the budget, but the fact is that more often than not the real purpose is to permit him to reexamine the need for any expenditure for the country after he has approved the appropriation therefor as duly passed by the Congress. This is tantamount to saying that after Congress appropriates, it must let the President dictate the priority of expenditures as well as the amount thereof.

Admittedly, there are some exceedingly difficult questions involved in dealing with impoundment, but in a day of \$229 billion Federal budgets it seems to me that if we grant the President complete power to spend or not spend appropriated funds, "government under law" and the doctrine of "separation of powers" becomes nothing more than a sham.

I think the issue is a serious one and requires prompt remedial action by Congress.



Burley Tobacco Legislation Approved

By Wm. C. Bledsoe

A bill authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to establish burley marketing quotas on a poundage basis rather than an acreage basis was signed by President Nixon April 14, 1971. Poundage quota base for a farm in 1971 would be figured on the basis of average yield--the top four of the last five years.

By provision of this law the Secretary cannot reduce a farm poundage quota by more than 5% in 1971 or any other year. Growers with 1/2 acres or less can not be cut by more than approximately 2 1/2% in 1972 or 1973. Up to 110% of quota can be sold any one year without penalty, but marketing quotas would be reduced the following year by the amount of the excess sold. Quotas may be leased and transferred to other farms within the same county up to a maximum of 15,000 lb. to any one farm.

A referendum for Burley Growers will be held May 4, at specified polling places. In this referendum growers may vote for or against controls and

parity price support system for the years 71-73. If controls are rejected there will be no price support and unlimited amounts of burley could be grown.

If controls are accepted there will be support prices and allotments will be based on poundage.

If anyone has questions, please call our office or ASCA office.

Killed In Vietnam

Spec. 4 Michael Edgar McPeters, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gresham E. McPeters of Nebo and the grandson of Mrs. Mollie Boone of Burnsville, was killed in action in Vietnam on April 1, his family was notified recently.

McPeters, who served in the 23rd Infantry Division stationed at Chu Lai near DaNang, was in a patrol group that was ambushed killing about 60 Americans.

He went to Vietnam last July and had received several medals, including the Silver Star and a flight medal for service on helicopter missions.

In addition to his wife, Mrs. Nancy Blackwelder McPeters of Morganton, his parents and his grandmother, he is survived by one brother, Darrell Doug-

las McPeters of the home; two sisters, Mrs. Joe Greenway of Eatonton, Ga. and Mrs. Robert Smith Jr. of Marion; and his paternal grandfather, Woody McPeters of Marion.

Special Worship

Sunday evening at 8:30 at the Celo Friends Meeting House just off Rt. 80 South, a special meeting of worship will be held in conjunction with the National Vigil in Washington on the same day. The worship will concentrate on prayer for President Nixon for a full understanding of the Peace Testimony of Friends. The public is invited to come and witness.

For further information call 675-4323.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Following Announce Their
Candidacy For The City Government
Of Burnsville Subject To The Will Of
The People May 4, 1971

For Mayor—

Carl A. Carter

For Board of
Alderman—

Ferrill G. McCurry

For Board of
Alderman—

Cecil W. Shaw

We Pledge Ourselves To The Following
Commitments To The People Of
Burnsville

Equal Representation Of All The People
Continuation Of The Water Project
Implementation Of Other Beneficial
Projects As Feasible
Responsible Government Consistent
With Good Business Practice

An Opportunity For All Citizens To
Discuss Any Matter That Pertains To
Their Welfare And Town As A Whole.

Regular Meetings Of The Town Board
Will Be Open To Any Interested Citizens.