

## For The Record

Congress Votes is issued every week that Congress is in session. It covers all votes of record and reports the position taken on each measure by the elected official whose name appears below.

### Daniel J. Flood 11th Congressional District, Pennsylvania

No. 66 93rd Congress July 4, 1974

H.R. 15580 makes appropriations totaling \$32.8 billion for the Departments of LABOR, and HEALTH, EDUCATION and WELFARE, and related agencies during fiscal year 1975. While considering the bill in the Committee of the Whole, record votes came on the following amendments:

An amendment providing an additional \$300 million for manpower training and public service employment programs. Ayes 231. Noes 171. Agreed to.

Mr. Flood voted no.

An amendment reducing the appropriation for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration by \$30 million. Ayes 179. Noes 218. Rejected.

Mr. Flood voted no.

An amendment earmarking \$5 million of the OSHA appropriation for grants to states for on-site counseling to assist employers in their efforts to comply with OSHA regulations. Ayes 301. Noes 100. Agreed to, June 27.

Mr. Flood voted no.

An amendment prohibiting inspections of firms with 25 or less employees for compliance with OSHA regulations. Ayes 201. Noes 194. Agreed to.

Mr. Flood voted no.

An amendment deleting the \$101 million appropriation for OSHA. Ayes 97. Noes 295. Rejected, June 27.

Mr. Flood voted no.

An amendment reducing the appropriation for the National Institute of Education by \$90 million. Ayes 44. Noes 331. Rejected, June 27.

Mr. Flood voted no.

An amendment prohibiting the use of funds for the busing of students or teachers to overcome racial imbalance or to carry out a plan of racial desegregation in any school system. Ayes 231. Noes 137. Agreed to.

Mr. Flood voted no.

An amendment prohibiting the use of funds for abortions, abortion referral services, or abortifacient drugs or devices. Ayes 123. Noes 247. Rejected, June 27.

Mr. Flood voted no.

After reporting the bill back to the House a separate vote was demanded on the amendment prohibiting OSHA inspections of firms with 25 or less employees (see above). Ayes 190. Noes 182. Agreed to, June 27.

Mr. Flood voted no.

Whether to pass H.R. 15580 as amended. Ayes 329. Noes 43. Passed.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

On a motion instructing House conferees to insist on House-passed provisions extending aid to school districts serving areas populated with Federal employees in the conference on the ELEMENTARY and SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENTS (H.R. 69): Ayes 144. Noes 187. Rejected, June 28.

Mr. Flood voted no.

The conference report on S. 3458 extends through fiscal year 1977 the Department of Agriculture's authority to purchase commodities for donation to DOMESTIC FOOD ASSISTANCE programs. Ayes 325. Noes 0. Agreed to.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

The conference report on H.R. 7724 authorizes the appropriation of \$208 million for a program of training and fellowships for BIOMEDICAL and BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH during fiscal year 1975. Ayes 311. Noes 10. Agreed to, June 28.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

H.R. 15581 provides \$1.1 billion for the construction and operating expenses of the District of Columbia government during fiscal year 1975. Ayes 236. Noes 36. Passed, June 28.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

H. Res. 1210 permits the House Judiciary Committee to proceed with the IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY without regard to a rule requiring that each Committee member have 5 minutes to question a witness. Ayes 207. Noes 140. Rejected, two-thirds not having voted in the affirmative as required by the procedure under which the resolution was considered, July 1.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

S.J. Res. 218 extends for 30 days, until July 30, 1974, the expiration date of the EXPORT-IMPORT BANK ACT of 1945. Ayes 238. Noes 115. Passed, July 1.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

H.R. 15276 creates a JUVENILE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ADMINISTRATION to administer a program of grants to states, localities and nonprofit agencies for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency. The bill authorizes appropriations totaling \$480 million over the next four years for the program.

On an amendment placing the program in the Department of Justice rather than the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare as provided in the bill: Ayes 144. Noes 210. Rejected, July 1.

Mr. Flood voted no.

Whether to pass H.R. 15276. Ayes 329. Noes 20. Passed, July 1.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

H.R. 15465 authorizes \$1.5 billion, to be paid in 4 annual installments of \$375 million, as the U.S. contribution to the INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION. The bill also permits American citizens to purchase, hold, sell, or otherwise deal with GOLD as of December 31, 1974.

During consideration of the bill in the Committee of the Whole, a motion was offered to report the bill back to the House with the recommendation that the enacting clause be stricken. On the motion: Ayes 96. Noes 268. Rejected, July 2.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

On a motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Banking and Currency with instructions to report it back with the IDA provisions deleted: Ayes 135. Noes 230. Rejected, July 2.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

Whether to pass H.R. 15465. Ayes 225. Noes 140. Passed, July 2.

Mr. Flood voted aye.

## Ambulance Log

### NOXEN

June 14—Richard Meade, accident to General Hospital. Crew: Ralph McCormack, Roger Boston and Sandra Swingle, RN.

June 18—Martin Brobst, accident to General Hospital. Crew: Earl Crispell and John Lyons.

June 22—Mrs. O'Boyle, Harveys Lake to General Hospital. Crew: Jerry Tallent, Ralph McCormack and Earl May.

June 25—Mary and Elizabeth Jenkins, accident Lutes Corners, to Noxen Clinic. Crew: Roger Boston, Howard Keller and Dave Fritz.

### HARVEYS LAKE

July 3 - Motorcycle accident, Pole 269. Bernard Kastaliba, Plains and Alfred Filipini, Plains to Nesbitt Hospital. Crew: Jim Faerber and Fred Merrill.

July 5—Irene Shmegleski, Spring and Dudley Avenues, Sandy Beach to General Hospital. Crew: Art Wagner and Jim Faerber.

July 5—George Bytheway, Smith's Trailer Court to Noxen Clinic and home. Crew: Art Wagner and Paul Wheat.

July 8—Leonore Megargel, First Street Warden Place to Mercy Hospital. Crew: Paul Wheat and Jim Faerber.

## Police Report

### Dallas Township

Three accidents were reported in Dallas Township last week. The first happened July 4 at 8 p.m. on Route 309. According to the report, Robert Crompton, Burlington Road, Unionville, Conn. was traveling south and crossed over into the northbound lane, striking a vehicle operated by Robert Goeringer, RD 3, Dallas, which was traveling north. When the Crompton car struck the Goeringer car, Mr. Goeringer lost control. He went into the southbound lane and came to rest on the embankment. Mr. Crompton came to rest on the guard rails and then proceeded from the scene of the accident. He did not identify himself. Mr. Goeringer got the license number and the owner was traced through the Luzerne County police communications center.

Patrolman John Appel investigated and estimated damages to the Goeringer car at \$500. A further investigation into the accident is being conducted by the police and the insurance companies.

July 5 at 1 a.m., Patrolman James Kelly investigated an accident on Dallas Township Route 819 near the intersection with Legislative Route 40053. Susan Laux, 101 White Birch Lane, Elmcrest, Dallas, stated that the car she was driving hit a car driven by Elaine Kovak, 45 Fall St., Ashley, but she did not stop. The Kovak vehicle proceeded after her. Both operators had the same story.

Damages were estimated at \$100 to each car.

Chief Carl Miers investigated an accident July 5 at 10:05 a.m. at the intersection of Route 309 and Main Road, Dallas.

R.E. Weaver, RD 2, Tunkhannock, had stopped for a stop sign on the Main road, and Gary Smith, RD 2, Dallas, was traveling south on Route 309. Mr. Weaver pulled out from the stop sign and into the path of the Smith car. Mr. Smith tried to avoid impact and swerved to

the right. Mr. Weaver continued across the intersection and collision took place in the south bound lane when Mr. Smith's brakes locked.

Mr. Weaver stated that he did not see the oncoming car. Chief Miers recommended that Mr. Weaver be recalled for examination by the motor vehicle office.

Encon Company, Fernbrook, was entered between July 6 and July 8 through a rear door. Entry was made by breaking the glass in the door and opening the latch. Vending machines and telephones were opened and the change removed.

The incident was reported July 8 at 6:15 a.m. and patrolmen James Kelly and Doug Lamoreux investigated. This is the second incident of breaking and entering at the plant in recent weeks. The investigation is continuing.

### Kingston Township

Three accidents were noted by the Kingston Township police last week. The first happened July 2 at 9:30 p.m. and Patrolmen Walter Davis and Merle Bigelow investigated.

Ann M. Bealla, 42 Moyes Ave., Swoyersville, was driving north on Route 309 and swerved to avoid a collision with Ann Marie Poliansky, Provincial Towers, Wilkes-Barre, who was coming out of Donachies parking lot. Impact took place in the northbound lane and the Poliansky car was removed from the point of impact before the police arrived. Damages were estimated at \$300 to the Bealla car and \$150 to the Poliansky car.

July 3 at 6:50 p.m., John Petro, 40 Harris Hill Road, Trucksville, was backing out of his driveway and backed into a motorcycle driven by Steven Franklin, RD 5, Shavertown. Mr. Franklin tried to stop to avoid collision but was unable.

Patrolman Davis and Chief Paul Sabol investigated and estimated damages at \$200 to the car and \$100 to the motorcycle. There were no injuries. July 4 at 5:50 a.m., Alfred Williams, RD 2, Dallas, was traveling north on Route 309 when at a point 1200 feet from the intersection with Carverton Road, Mr. Williams lost control of his car, struck a culvert, and proceeded 200 feet before coming to rest on the side of the road.

Patrolman Joseph Berube investigated and estimated damages at \$400. The car had to be towed away.

Dallas Borough  
Dallas Borough Patrolman John Fowler assisted by Walter Davis, Kingston Township investigated an accident July 6 at 10 p.m. at the intersection of Route 415 and Center Hill Road.

Richard E. Zneimer, 133 White Birch Lane, Dallas, was passing a truck and attempted to make a left hand turn into Center Hill Road from the southbound lane of Route 415.

Nancy Derhamer, RD 1, Dallas, was traveling north on Route 415 and was attempting to make a left hand turn into Center Hill Road toward the American Legion Home. The two autos collided as both operators tried to make the turns.

Damage was estimated at \$1,000 to each car. Both cars had to be towed.

### Jackson Township

One accident was reported in the township last week according to Police Chief Don Jones. On July 3 at 9:30 a.m., Maeryta Ann Parkhurst, 126 Doran Drive, Trucksville, was proceeding south on the Chase Road when a bee flew into her car. It caused her to lose control of the car and she ran off the west berm of the road and struck three trees. Her Volvo sedan was a total loss. Miss Parkhurst advised Don Jones, who investigated, that she would see her family physician for her injuries. Malak's Towing Service towed the car.



### Forty Years Ago 1934

Frog legs were in season and many frog-catchers were sold solid on the time-honored lure of a bit of red flannel offered on a barbed hook. After frog legs quiet down in the frying pan they're superb eating.

Stella Fiske, wife of the former Dallas constable Edward Fiske, died at her home in Parish Heights.

Ella M. Neyhart, widow of the former Dallas Township tax collector Milton Neyhart, died at the age of 76.

Helen England resigned from Kingston Township faculty; Sarah Pfahler was appointed. Dallas firemen were ready for the four-day carnival on the Adelman plot. Nightly dances, a midway, an air circus and suppers were on the agenda.

Reunion of Bertram, Elston and Myers families at Huntsville.

Tuna fish was two cans for a quarter; coffee, 21 cents a pound; and no farmer could get rich on butter at two pounds for 55 cents.

### Thirty Years Ago 1944

Russell Houser Jr., 17, a member of Wyoming Seminary swimming team, broke his neck in a fall into a Wapwallopen stream when the bank gave way.

Ann Griffin, 19, Pioneer Avenue, was killed in a highway accident.

Lt. Peter Skopic was held by the Germans after his plane was downed by Nazi fighters.

Two airborne men were wounded in France a week after D-day. William Glenn Knecht, was a glider flight officer; Jack

## Only Yesterday

Evans, a paratrooper.

Robert Norman Smith, Huntsville, was appointed to Annapolis.

Mrs. W. B. Sutton, Carverton, 74, suffered deep lacerations when injured in a car driven by her nephew. Mrs. Sutton went through the windshield.

Coach Tinsley left Dallas High for a job at Sharon High. In the Outpost: Ralph Whitebread, India; Thomas Bately, England; Bob Grose, Sampson; Charles Gordon, Virginia; Edward Tutak, Walla-Walla; Gilbert Husted, Jacksonville; Ray Pritchard, England; Walt Schuler, China; T. Jefferson Miers, on a speck of land in the Pacific; John Youngblood, Bedford Springs; Jimmie Trebilcock, Hawaii.

Died: Alice Major, Lehman; Mary Pearson, 80, Outlet.

Belles-Shaver-Compton reunion.

Headlines announced the 18th annual auction and list of goods new and glamorous, helped fill the pages.

Nick Sosick Jr. attended the American Legion 1964 Annual Keystone State at Penn State.

Dallas Borough Council viewed architects' plans of new post office.

Summer band program began with concert as target.

YWCA softball league was underway in Shavertown.

Born: Stephen, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Bestwick, Dallas, and Stephen Wayne, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Yatsko, Harveys Lake.

Died: Julius Long Stern, 71, Idetown, former owner of Isaac Long's.

Chicken was 27 cents a pound; watermelons were 79 cents each; bacon, 49 cents a pound; spaghetti, 19 cents a pound, and a 38-ounce bottle of salad oil could be bought for 49 cents.

## An Analysis

# Middlemen Beef Profits A Congressional Puzzle

by Doug O'Boyle  
Post's Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON—The agricultural sector of the economy, particularly the beef industry, has attracted lots of attention in Washington the last few weeks. With the attention has come a closer congressional scrutiny of food industry middlemen—the "pipeline" from the farmer to the consumer—than ever before.

Questions congressmen have been asking at recent congressional hearings are: Why is the margin between the farm price and the retail price so large? Why aren't drops in farm prices reflected at the retail level? Who's making a buck off the farmer?

Getting the answers to those questions has been difficult for Congress, for the food "pipeline" has many twists and turns. But some facts are known.

The difference between the farm prices and consumer prices—the so-called farm-retail spread—has increased steadily over the past 20 years and has been the primary factor in spiraling food prices. More and more of the food dollar is going to process, package, transport, and sell the food than to produce the food.

From 1952 to 1971, retail food prices increased 27 percent, according to the U.S. Agriculture Department. Of that increase, 94 percent was due to rises in middleman costs while the remaining six percent was due to increased farm costs. The biggest middleman cost increases were in labor, transportation and packaging.

The chief USDA economist said in a recent statement, "The long-term rise in the level of food prices was due to persistently and relentlessly rising market margins."

In 1973, three-fifths of the consumer's food dollar went to middlemen, while two-fifths went to farmers and livestock producers. Translated into dollars, \$83 billion of the \$134 billion consumer expenditures for food went to middlemen last year.

The country has recently gone through price freezes and economic phases and unprecedented inflation. Naturally, food production and marketing costs have increased. But while these costs have skyrocketed, cattle prices have plummeted over recent months. Yet, at first glance, the sharply lower cattle prices do not appear to be reflected at the meat counter.

The reason involves a maze of marketing procedures which can be illustrated mathematically. The farmer and livestock producer receive approx-

mately 40 cents of every consumer dollar spent for food. Thus, when the livestock producers' cattle price falls 35 percent, as it has in recent months, that drop is actually 35 percent of 40 cents, which amounts to a 14 cent drop at the retail level. In other words, price fluctuations at the farmers' level have only a marginal effect on retail food prices.

Food retail representatives made this argument in the hearings, but many congressmen were perplexed by it. The retail chains insisted they had passed on the beef price decreases to consumers, citing 17 percent retail beef price cuts in recent months. Several members of the House Agriculture Committee were openly skeptical.

Apparently in response to this growing skepticism in Congress, the Administration announced the formation of a "Task Force on Meat Margins" to investigate the beef industry. Another similar investigation is underway in the Federal Trade Commission.

The USDA disagreed with the food chains' claims. According to a USDA economist, "Feed cattle prices have declined severely since February, but retail prices of beef have been slow in reflecting this decrease."

The USDA economist said that in 1973 the middlemen's take on beef "registered the largest gain for all commodity groups, averaging 34 percent higher than a year ago." Food retail chains make more money off beef than any other commodity, it appears from the USDA figures.

But this is not the case, according to Safeway. "For several years," a Safeway executive testified, "our meat department gross profit rates on sales have shown a steady decline. And so far in this year 1974, our records show a further decline from the corresponding period a year ago."

Despite this claim, the USDA economist said, "We believe that retailers could reduce their margins and prices" on beef.

The fact that meat packers and food chain profits went up, while cattlemen were losing millions of dollars, did not win many friends in Congress. Charges of "profitsteering" were made, which the middlemen emphatically denied.

Yet USDA figures show food chain and meat packer profits are increasing, sometimes dramatically. For instance, in the last quarter of 1973 and first quarter of 1974, during the period cattle prices were falling, food chains' profits

increased to .95 percent of sales compared to .4 percent in the third quarter of 1973. Although the profit margin is relatively small compared to other industries, based on the food chains' billions of dollars in sales, a slight profit percentage increase can add up to millions of dollars.

Meat packers' net profits increased to 1.1 percent of sales in 1973, up from 1.0 percent in 1972. In the first quarter of 1974, meat packers' profits averaged 1.4 percent of sales. Spectacular profit increases were posted by two large meat packers—Iowa Beef Processors, with a 66 percent profit increase last year, and American Beef Processors, with a 288 percent profit jump.

Citing these profit increases and the widening farm-retail spreads, consumer groups told the congressmen that the fault rested with "an apparent failure of competitive mechanisms to work." There is a "high market concentration" in the beef industry, one consumer representative said, resulting in an "oligopoly" among the largest food chains which stifles competition.

Food retailers countered that the industry was one of the most competitive in the country.

The consumer groups also charged that the meat packing industry's vertical integration—increasing involvement of meat packing firms in feedlot operations—allowed them to manipulate cattle prices to their advantage.

The meat packers tried to downplay their feeding operations and denied they wield such power in the cattle market.

What emerged from the conflicting facts and figures, charges and denials is that no one—including the Department of Agriculture—apparently has a handle on the whole problem. Congress has asked for more information, but the more it has gotten the more puzzled the lawmakers have become.

Whether the Nixon Administration's task force and the USDA studies will provide some clear answers remains to be seen.

Equivalent combinations of experience and training may be accepted for state civil service job requirements. Candidates should refer to the examination announcement for details on position requirements and acceptable combinations of experience and training.

## In the Public Interest

# Drinking Water Is Safe?

by Ralph Nader

WASHINGTON—Congressman Harley Staggers' daughter is a young physician in West Virginia. She has treated patients suffering from contaminated drinking water. Yet she is not familiar with the safe drinking water bill which has been bogged down in her father's House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee for several months due to lack of quorums, oil industry lobbying and nit-picking.

She is not alone in this unawareness. Cleaning up the nation's drinking water is not exactly a burning political issue. Politicians do not lose or win elections over their stands on the level of mercury, admium, nitrates, asbestos, lead, live viruses, bacteria or other drinking water pollutants that cause short or long term damage to citizens' health.

But if the urgent facts about community and metropolitan water supplies which have been compiled by the U.S. Public Health Service and the Environmental Protection Agency do not move voters to action, they have had an effect on Congress. Last year the Senate passed a bill providing for federal drinking water standards and technical assistance to the states who retain the primary enforcement role. However, should a state fail to protect its citizens by not enforcing these standards, the EPA would insure compliance.

The House bill, as it is presently written, would require water systems which violate the health standards to notify consumers and the media. Passage of such legislation would alert the residents of Cleveland, for example, more frequently about the antiquated systems of pipes and water-processing plants which bring water from Lake Erie. It would have led to the disclosure earlier of asbestos leaching from asbestos pipe or from industrial water pollution in numerous cities.

The drinking water bill must be reported out within three weeks by Chairman Staggers' Committee of this truly historic effort to show how little it would cost (about \$1 per American per year) to apply known technology for much purer drinking water will be lost.

To bring this bill to a vote on the House floor before the impeachment process dominates the legislators' attention, three changes are necessary.

First, the committee must stand up to the omnipresent oil lobbyists who want to block a provision dealing with contamination of underground water supplies by careless oil operations. As always, the men from the American Petroleum Institute want special Congressional treatment.

Second, the members of the Staggers Committee must show up at the meetings in order to constitute a quorum. Some members, such as Congressman John McCollister of Nebraska or Congressman Dick Shoup of Montana, have been engaged in delaying and trivializing tactics that are demeaning and disgraceful to them. Fuller Committee attendance will bring more support to the work of Congressman Paul Rogers

## Defense Burden Shared Unequally by Americans

WASHINGTON—For every tax dollar Pennsylvanians pay to the federal government for defense, only 62 cents is returned to the state, according to a new study. The study shows Pennsylvania is the sixteenth biggest loser nationwide.

The figures come from a study on defense spending by Michigan State political scientist James Anderson which was released by Rep. Les Aspin, (D-Wisc). The biggest losers were Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and Oregon, which each get back less than 30 cents on every defense tax dollar.

According to the study, Pennsylvania loses about \$1.75 billion annually in defense dollars. That works out to \$147.22 per person.

Aspin said the study was surprising evidence that defense is

imposing the study, the tax burden for each state was calculated from information gathered by the Tax Foundation, a private, non-partisan research group. The tax burden was compared to the defense outlays for each state to determine if the state is a net gainer or loser.

By century's end, according to a special study—*Probing the Future* by Engineering News-Record, A-frame buildings 400 to 500 feet high will span highways and parks.