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### Report to the People Vol. 1 No. 11

Florence P. Dwyer

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# REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



CONGRESSWOMAN



**FLORENCE P. DWYER**

Volume I, Number 11.

April 25, 1957.

In recent weeks, there have been increasing rumors that President Eisenhower looks bad - that he is in failing health. Such reports, I understand, have generated considerable public uneasiness.

In view of these recurring rumors, I believe it is important to report my firsthand observations.

Just last week, I was privileged to meet and talk with the President. And I can report that there are no grounds for such rumors.

I have met and talked with the President on various occasions during the years since his 1952 campaign. When I saw him last week, he was looking as well as I have ever seen him. He showed no signs of weariness or illness; he was cheerful, and his personality was as forceful and appealing as ever.

I believe the story of my most recent meeting with the President illustrates vividly the great friendliness and common touch that have captured the hearts of America.

I had taken a group of Plainfield Girl Scouts and six of their mothers to meet Bernard Shanley, the President's personal aide, before making a tour of the White House.

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While we were in Mr. Shanley's office, the President passed down an outer corridor on his way to a press conference. He paused by an open door to Mr. Shanley's office, poked his head in and grinned at the Girl Scouts.

"What are you girls doing here?" he asked.

Several of the girls excitedly explained that they were visitors from New Jersey.

President Eisenhower entered the office, shook hands with the group, chatted with them and signed several autographs and pictures for them before continuing on to his press conference.

Needless to say, this chance meeting with the President was the highlight of the trip for the girls; an occasion they will always remember.

#### CONGRESS MOVING SLOWLY

Congress this week is in Easter recess - an occasion which marks the approximate half-way point of this legislative session.

To date, the legislative mill has been moving at a painfully slow pace. Although President Eisenhower, in his budget and State of the Union messages, made more than 60 legislative proposals, with more than a score of them of major importance, Congress so far has completed action on only seven important bills.

Still languishing in committee is such important legislation as Civil Rights, immigration law revisions, Federal aid for school construction and other vital parts of the President's program.

On Capitol Hill, it is the feeling that this inactivity generally is just another product of divided political control - of one party controlling the executive branch of government and the other party controlling the legislative branch.

As a result of this slowup on legislation, a great rush of activity is expected during the last half of this session. Unfortunately, this is not a sound legislative practice, and many veterans of Congress now feel that the session will end without action on several of the major bills.

#### LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE HELPFUL

I have found, during my first months in Congress, that my years of legislative experience in the New Jersey Assembly have been of great value.

That experience has given me a knowledge of legislative procedures, of committee work and all of the other technical details that are encountered by a legislator. Indeed, I feel this experience has enabled me to quickly adapt myself effectively to the workings of Congress, and to provide the people of my District with sound representation.

#### TREASURY DEPARTMENT EXAMPLE

The Treasury Department has set an outstanding example of how governmental economies can be effected through efficient management processes.

By effecting a number of operating economies, Treasury Secretary Humphrey, during the past fiscal year, has saved the taxpayers more than \$8 million.

Accounting systems have been modernized, the Internal Revenue taxpayer assistance program has been revised and other job simplification methods have been put into practice with a result that the Department has been handling a greater workload with 1500 fewer employees.

The economizing was extended to the point of reducing the size of cigarette tax stamps. This item may sound insignificant, but during the past

year it has saved the public \$250,000.

I feel the example set by the Treasury Department should serve as a guide to all other governmental departments and agencies. By constantly seeking to effect such sound business practices; by seeking every possible means to cut expenses in small as well as large fields, our government can make great strides toward easing the taxpayer's burden.