

## CONGRESS REPORT

# Maritime School Gets Budget Hike

By JOHN F. BALDWIN  
6th District Representative

Last week our House Public Works Committee had an organizational meeting to determine subcommittee assignments for its members. Your representative feels very fortunate to have again obtained assignments to the two subcommittees of his choice. These are the Roads Subcommittee and the Flood Control Subcommittee. This will be my fifth year on both subcommittees.

On the important 18-man Roads Subcommittee, I will continue to be the sole representative from the three Far Western States. I am third in rank on the Republican side of the subcommittee, having moved up two seats because of the death of one member and the defeat of another last Fall.

It was this subcommittee which last year initiated the Federal - Aid Highway Act of 1958. Under this Act, the "needs formula" was adopted for the first time for the apportionment of Federal Interstate Highway funds between states.

Under this formula, California's share of Federal Interstate Highway funds was increased from 5.8 per cent to 10.2 per cent. As a result, the allocation made in July of last year of Fiscal Year 1960 funds resulted in California receiving an allocation of \$302,000,000 in Federal funds.

**THIS WAS \$101,000,000 more than California would have received under the old formula, which was an arbitrary formula based upon population, area, and miles of post roads. It was also the largest allocation received by any state in the Union. The road contract now under construction on Mt. Diablo Boulevard in Contra Costa County between the Lafayette By-Pass and Orinda Crossroads (whereby the road will be widened to three lanes each way) was made possible by the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1958, and is being financed to an extent of 66% per cent by Federal funds.**

In Solano County the interchange on Highway 40 at Fairfield which is in the California Division of Highways construction program for Fiscal Year 1960, together with the full freeway from Fairfield to Cordelia, which is in the same construction program, will also be made possible by the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1958, being financed 90 per cent by Federal funds. The interchange at Fair-

field will eliminate the last stoplight on Highway 40 in Solano County.

**ON THE Flood Control Subcommittee, I will also be the third ranking member on my side of the 17-man subcommittee, and will be the ranking Californian from the standpoint of years of service on the subcommittee.**

Congressman Harold Johnson, of Roseville, a new member from California's Second District (formerly held by Senator Clair Engle), has also been assigned to this subcommittee. This subcommittee has the responsibility for approving all flood control projects in the United States for which Federal assistance is provided.

The proposed \$24,000,000 U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Flood Control Project on Walnut Creek in Contra Costa County will come before this subcommittee when it is submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Army. This project moved forward an important step last week when it was approved by the Bureau of the Budget. Your representative had previously written the Bureau of the Budget urging prompt and favorable action on the project. I have now written the Department of the Army urging that the project be transmitted to Congress for action as soon as possible.

**THE PUBLIC Works Committee decided to establish an additional subcommittee this year called the "Subcommittee on Watershed Development." This subcommittee will have the responsibility of approving soil conservation projects under Public Law 566 which involve dams with over a minimum of 4,000 acre feet.**

The Marsh - Kellogg Creek Soil Conservation Project falls within this category. The last phases of engineering are being completed on this project, and it is hoped that it can be submitted to Congress for approval this year. When it comes to Congress, it will come before this subcommittee. I therefore requested assignment to this additional subcommittee and am very pleased to report that my

request has been granted. This means I shall actually be serving on three subcommittees this year, whereas in my previous four years I served on two subcommittees.

Both my seniority and workload has therefore increased within my committee. The Ulatis Creek Soil Conservation Project in Solano County will not have to come before this subcommittee, because the Ulatis Project does not involve any dams. Congressman John McFall, of Manteca, who represents California's 11th District, has also been assigned to this 18-man subcommittee.

**THE BUDGET** which was submitted to Congress recently by President Eisenhower contained good news as far as the California Maritime Academy at Vallejo is concerned. The Budget recommended an appropriation of \$1,100,000 for the four State Maritime Academies (these are located in California, Maine, Massachusetts, New York). This is almost double the appropriation of \$660,000

made last year. The reason for this increase is a law enacted by Congress last year.

This law provided that the Federal grants to the State Maritime Academies should be increased to \$75,000 per Academy, and that the Federal allowance to cadets for uniforms, textbooks, and subsistence should be increased to \$600 per cadet per year.

Your representative and three other Congressmen from the other three districts where State Maritime Academies are located were primarily responsible for pushing this bill through the House of Representatives. Adm. Mahlon Tisdale, U. S. N., ret., of Vallejo also gave effective, vital help in this successful effort. Your representative intends to request the opportunity to testify before the House Appropriations Committee in favor of this appropriation. The California State Maritime Academy is doing a particularly outstanding job, with a high academic standard, excellent facilities, and a very fine instructional staff.