

A Bargaining Device?

# GOP Offers Compromise Plan for State Budget

By VINCENT THOMAS  
Assemblyman, 68th District

A few rays of sunshine popped up on the budget horizon recently. The two parties, whose deadlock has so far blocked any serious consideration of the huge spending program for the next fiscal year, have at least resumed discussions of the budget bill, however unfriendly they may be. If progress continues toward passage of the bill, it could be that adjournment well before the June primary would be possible, with no need to go back into session after it.

The Assembly Republican leader came up with a five-point plan for an "honest budget." Administration spokesmen sneered at the plan as neither new nor honest, but in the next breath said that one feature is "splendid," and promised that a bill containing it would be promptly introduced.

The plans calls for complete accrual of all state revenues. It would include both the personal income tax and the bank and corporation franchise tax, neither of which is in the administration accrual proposal now before us. The suggestion that the franchise be accrued was the element of the plan hailed by the administration. About \$25 million would be involved in the change.

ACCUAL OF THE income tax was scornfully rejected by the opposing spokesmen, on the grounds that it does not meet the two major criteria for accrual — that the revenue involved be earned, and that it be measurable. About \$178 million would be affected if this shift were adopted.

A cut of \$25 million in the \$4.6 billion budget is next proposed by the Republican plan. No specific items were mentioned as possible subjects for slashes, but it was made clear that reductions, adding up to the total requested must be made if the budget bill is to get minority support.

The next recommendation is for a \$100 million reduction in the \$295 million bond issue for new state construction which is scheduled to go on the November ballot. The Republican leader said that this cut would put the state on a pay-as-we-go basis for new higher education building next year, and would save about \$55 million in interest costs over the life of the bond issue.

THE administration protested that a cut of this magnitude would be impossible because it would strip the University and state colleges of "a whole year's construction money," but added that \$15 or \$20 million might conceivably be trimmed from the bond issue.

In a double-barreled recommendation, the plan calls for impounding all the revenue accrued from the income and franchise taxes in two special reserve funds. One would be used to obviate the need for future construction bond issues as far as possible. The second would be used to avoid the need for tax increases at the next general session.

Before releasing the budget plan, the Republican leader cleared it with his party caucus, which approved it with only minor disagreement on some points. It was evident, however, that the plan is fundamentally a bargaining device, and there is no positive assurance that Assembly Republicans will vote for the budget bill even if all, or most of the plan features are adopted.

## North High Tea Slated

Parents of students who will enter North High School next September will be honored this afternoon at a tea. The tea will be held on the North High patio, according to Miss Kay Curry, freshman girls' counselor.

Dress regulations will be discussed and the North High home economics department will present a fashion show, Miss Curry said. Student art work will be displayed in a special exhibit.



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TENDER, JUICY STEAKS

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**CHUCK ROAST**

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**37¢** lb.

U.S.D.A. 'CHOICE' BEEF STEAK

**Porterhouse** \$1.07 lb.

U.S.D.A. 'CHOICE' BEEF — BONE IN

**Round Steak** 77¢ lb.

U.S.D.A. 'CHOICE' BEEF — BONE IN

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U.S.D.A. 'CHOICE' BEEF

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U.S.D.A. 'CHOICE' BEEF

**7-Bone Roast** 47¢ lb.

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EASTERN GRAIN FED

**PORK LOIN ROAST**

FULL 7 RIB END

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U.S.D.A. GRADE 'A'

WHOLE BODY

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Pork Steaks	69¢ lb.	Spareribs Country Style or Lightweight	59¢ lb.
Pork Hocks	39¢ lb.	Rib Chops Center Cut	79¢ lb.
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