

# House won't vote on canal treaty

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes during the period April 3 when the Easter recess ended, through April 5.

## HOUSE

**WHITE HOUSE STAFF**—Failed, 207 for and 188 against, to obtain the two-thirds majority needed to pass a bill (HR 11003) setting new limits on the size of the White House staff. The bill is the first attempt in 30 years to modernize laws governing a president's hiring of aides.

One effect of the bill was to almost double (from 55 to 100) the number of top-level aides on the White House staff. A two-thirds majority was required for passage because the bill came to the floor under a short-cut parliamentary procedure under which amendments were prohibited. Sponsors said they would bring the bill back under normal procedures requiring a simple majority for passage.

Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.), a supporter, said the bill imposes long-overdue limits on White House staff size. "In essence, it puts upon the President about the same criteria as we ourselves have for our own congressional staffs," she said.

Hep. Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) an opponent, asked: "Where are the Democrat denunciations against this bill which would give President Carter the most expensive White House in history—the same President Carter who, shortly after his inauguration, declared he was cutting the White House staff by one-third?"

Members voting "yea" favored passage of the bill.

Reps. David Bonior (D-Mt. Clemens), William Ford (D-Taylor), William Brodhead (D-Detroit), and James Blanchard (D-Fl. Ridge), voted "yea."

Reps. William Broomfield, (R-Birm.) and Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth), voted "nay."

**PARCEL POST**—Adopted, 292 for and 112 against, an amendment whose effect is to increase U.S. Postal Service parcel post rates, thus enhancing the competitive position of United Parcel Service and other private deliverers. The amendment would remove the taxpayers' subsidy of government parcel post operations, thus raising rates by an estimated 50 to 60 per cent.

It was attached to HR 7700, a bill to establish congressional review of postal rates, increase congressional oversight over the U.S. Postal Service, and make other changes in the postal service. The bill was headed for final passage.

## Roll Call Report

Rep. Jim Collins (D-Tex.), a supporter, said that under the amendment "We are going to find better service, a more efficient parcel post service, and heaven knows, it is going to mean that the United Parcel Service will get a fair shake in being able to compete on even terms."

Rep. Clifford Allen (D-Tenn.) an opponent, said that "If we want to maintain our parcel post service in the (U.S.) postal department we will not or should not adopt any amendment (under which) the rate would automatically have to go up some 68 per cent for parcel post."

Members voting "yea" favored removing the parcel post subsidy. Bonior, Broomfield, and Pursell voted "yea." Ford, Brodhead and Blanchard voted "nay."

## SENATE

**PANAMA CANAL**—Tabled, 58 for and 37 against, an amendment requiring a House vote of approval before the U.S. can cede the Panama Canal Zone. It was offered to the proposed treaty relinquishing U.S. control of the canal zone in 2000. A final treaty vote is scheduled April 18 in the Senate.

Sponsors of the amendment contended that Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution requires House as well as Senate approval of U.S. disposal of its property.



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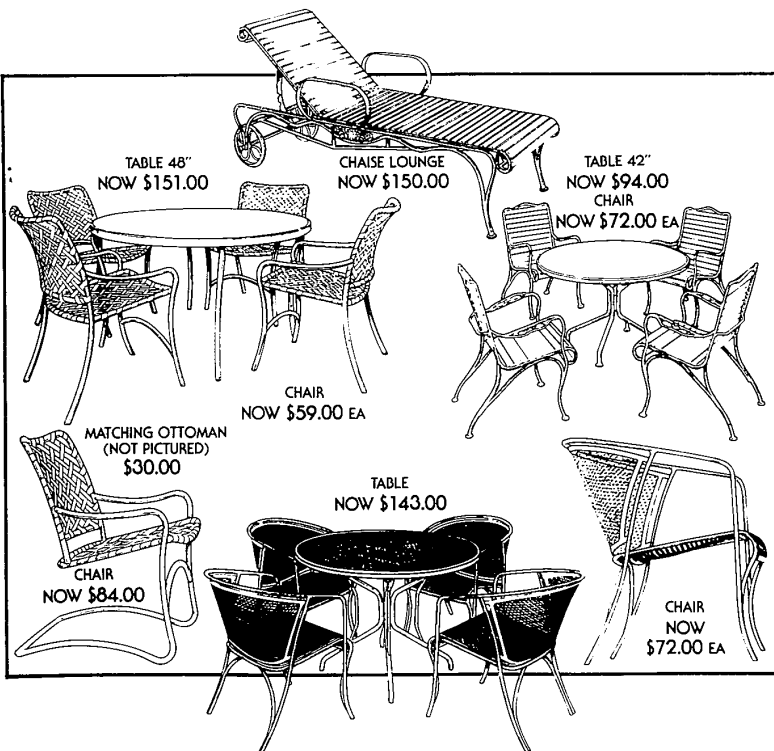
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