

cancies with job applicants;

(6) assess the activities of relevant Federal agencies, including the Department of Labor and Office of Education, to develop an improved labor market exchange system, including—

(a) identification of manpower needs and career prospects; and

(b) preparation of a national inventory of the labor force, with specific reference to the supply of required skills;

(7) take affirmative action to encourage participation and cooperation of employers and trade unions to improve manpower planning, including—

(a) advance notice of significant changes in labor force requirements;

(b) maintenance of current job data banks; and

(c) monitoring of labor surpluses and shortages;

(8) hold nationwide and regional conferences designed to encourage the support of management and labor in meeting the objectives of this Act;

(9) analyze and make recommendations with respect to the extent to which the Federal budget may assist in reaching full employment, including the effect of different types of governmental funding and procurement policies; and

(10) perform such other functions as the President may direct...

Regional Full Employment Councils

SEC. 6. (a) There is hereby established, as integral components of the Federal Employment System, ten regional full employment councils, each to consist of five members from each region, representative of labor, business, and the public, appointed by the President after consultation with the Governors of the States in each region. The Regional Administrator of the Employment and Training Administration, the Regional Commissioner of the Office of Education and the Regional Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics shall serve on the Council in an ex officio capacity...

Functions of Regional Councils

SEC. 8. (a) The regional full employment councils are

authorized and directed to—

(1) recommend to the Federal Full Employment Board policies appropriate to the dimensions and characteristics of individual regional unemployment problems;

(2) seek the cooperation of regional labor and industrial organizations, to undertake long- and short-range labor supply and demand analysis and estimation and general assessments of labor shortage and surplus conditions in regional labor markets;

(3) report annually to Federal, regional, State, and local authorities on conditions in the regional labor market, including probable causes of and possible solutions to regional unemployment problems;

(4) recommend to State and local education and training institutions implementation of programs to prepare youth and adult members of the labor force for regional job opportunities and generally encourage integration and improvement in the linkages between education and work;

(5) encourage a greater coordination between the institutions of education, training, and skills acquisition on the one hand and industrial and labor organizations on the other;

(6) disseminate studies, reports, and other materials which might be used in the preparation of educational curriculums for employment and in career counseling;

(7) publish and make available, an annual nontechnical report to the people of the region, on conditions in local labor markets with respect to present and anticipated job vacancies and surpluses, and on the availability and location of youth and adult occupational preparation institutions.

Reports

SEC. 9. (a) The Federal Full Employment Board shall transmit to the Congress, on or before January 20 of each year (beginning January 20, 1978); a report, to be known as the full employment report, setting forth a program to achieve full employment for the following fiscal year, and alternative means of attaining that objective...

Carter Energy Program: Breezing Through Congress

On its current schedule — the schedule demanded by energy advisor James Schlesinger — the Carter Administration's no-energy package will become law by early October. The omnibus energy legislation — over 500 pages in length with 113 sections — is presently being railroaded through Congress at such breakneck speed that, even though Congressional leaders consider it to be "one of the most important pieces of legislation in Congressional history," it will likely pass with only a modicum of debate and deliberation.

OMNIBUS ENERGY BILL: After discussion in the House Ways and Means Committee and a few other key com-

mittees, the core of Carter's energy program was approved and sent to the specially established House Ad Hoc Committee on Energy, which gave its okay to the bill July 22. Set for round-the-clock debate and discussion for only six days — the brevity of this schedule considered "unprecedented" by leading Congressmen — the Committee actually completed its deliberations in an unheard of three days. Following orders from Carter's chief Congressional hack, Speaker "Tip" O'Neill (D-Mass.), the "amended" form of the legislation then breezed through the House Rules Committee in one day. Frantic to get the legislation passed before the August 5 recess, House leaders agreed to devote Friday to a full

House debate and vote on stringent groundrules. "No Congressmen will be able to offer anything but a minor amendment from the floor," the Rules Committee decided. Once the rules are approved — and the expectation is that they will be approved in their entirety on July 29 — the entire legislative package will be sent to the House floor on Monday, August 1. So convinced that this legislation will be approved without major opposition, the House leaders have allocated only five days — and they are hoping the vote will come in much less.

Since the Senate has no constitutional power to initiate revenue bills, it must wait for House passage before acting on the legislation. So confident are Carter's Senate hatchetmen of pre-recess passage in the House, Senator Russell Long (D-La.) has scheduled Senate Finance Committee hearings during the recess and for right after Labor Day when Congress reconvenes. Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.) has made repeated public threats to the Senate that either they pass the legislation prior to the final Oct. 7 recess or the recess will be postponed until passage. Byrd has also predicted that the Senate will pass the package not giving Carter everything he wants but "more than he wants."

ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY NUCLEAR ENERGY BUDGET: On July 11-12 the Senate passed the Administration's nuclear energy budget with only minor modifications. After beating back an amendment to kill the Clinch River breeder reactor, the Senate then turned around and supported by voice vote a "compromise" amendment which limits funding to \$75 million rather than the minimum of \$150 needed for advancing to the commercialization stage. The end result is that the Senate approved a slow rather than a quick death for the breeder.

The Senate's retreat further intensified when, again by voice vote and with little discussion, it agreed to fund the

Barnwell, N.C. plutonium reprocessing plant at \$14 million but limit funding to a study to determine "alternate use" of the plant. The next day — with 10 minutes of debate — the Senate supported the President's crippling fusion power budget request.

The House has not yet considered these measures. Although initially scheduled for a House vote in mid-July, House leaders, again catering to the Administration's wishes, stalled on setting the date of the vote. Carter was worried, a House Science and Technology Committee source revealed, that he would lose the breeder vote.

In a joint House-Senate conference on July 20, Congressional leaders accepted a Carter-proposed deal to postpone the authorization vote until September in exchange for the continuation of nine water projects. While pro-nuclear energy Congressmen have rationalized this move as a "good deal," Schlesinger and Co. have already gone into full gear armtwisting Congressmen into supporting Carter on the breeder. The fact that the media has already erroneously reported the breeder as being killed by the conference action has put psychological dampers on previous forward motion.

ENERGY DEPARTMENT: On July 22, the same day that the Ad Hoc Energy Committee finished its review, another House-Senate conference worked out differences hanging up the Energy Department legislation. A final vote is expected on the bill which will set up an extra-constitutional dictatorial body, before the August recess. The Energy Department legislation had been adopted in both Houses of Congress earlier this year by a wide margin and with little discussion. At that time, not one Congressman condemned the role that Schlesinger, as Energy Secretary, will play and the wartime powers he will assume. His nomination will be considered, most definitely before the October recess, once final approval for the Department is obtained.

Curb Federal Election Commission

The St. Louis Globe Democrat printed this editorial in its July 25 edition.

The way the federal election campaign law is written, the Federal Election Commission can launch as many investigations of suspected violators of campaign laws as it chooses and it is not required to make public the details of these inquiries.

This came to light recently when a number of minor parties complained that the FEC was investigating them for reasons they considered invalid. They charge they are being harassed by the FEC.

When *The Globe-Democrat* called the FEC to ask about details of the investigations, it was told that none could be revealed due to a provision in the election laws that says "Any notification or investigation (of the Federal Election Commission) made under paragraph (2) shall not be made public by the Commission or by any person without the written consent of the person receive-

ing such notification or the person with respect to whom such investigation is made."

Why is the FEC investigating the American Party? Why is the FEC seeking the records of the Libertarian Party? Why is the FEC demanding records and documents of the U.S. Labor Party and asking its contributors to furnish records?

The response of an FEC spokesman to all these questions is that under the above restriction in the law details of the investigations cannot be revealed.

There is another provision in the law that the FEC does not seem to be following. It says that "Any investigation under paragraph (2) shall be conducted expeditiously...."

It is known that the FEC investigations of the minor parties have been going on for many months. Can these lengthy probes be considered as expeditious? The longer they continue without any charges being filed, the more credence is given to the complaints by the organizations