



the broad features of the proposal. Mr. Stassen gave further support to the proposal and the Vice President concluded that close attention must be given to keeping presentation of it in proper balance.

State of the Union Message - In a rapid general discussion, there was unanimous agreement that the State of the Union Message should be much shorter this year and that detailed material should be reserved for special messages. It was felt that the President's emphasis should be reserved for the critical items of immediate interest to the Nation.

Stand-by Emergency Legislation - The Vice President noted that this subject might arise at the Leadership Meeting the next day and asked whether the Administration view remained the same as in 1955 when it would have been glad to have such authority but did not seek to press for it. Sec. Weeks hoped no hasty decision would be made to seek this legislation after all the careful thought previously given to it without any showing of necessity.

Pay Increases - The Vice President asked whether Sec. McElroy would be discussing the Cordiner proposals at the Legislative Meeting and whether an irrevocable decision had been reached. Sec. Anderson, noting the budget squeeze and somewhat increased unemployment, thought it might be preferable to leave the initiative with the Congress and to confine any Cordiner action to an area of strict military security need.

Sec. Mitchell thought it inevitable that Congress would increase salaries and that the real question was how could the Administration secure the most desirable action. He felt that military pay could not be increased while civilian pay was neglected. The Postmaster General pointed out that any rate increase must be accompanied by a pay increase, and that some pay increases would be desirable as an anti-cyclical measure. Mr. Folsom pointed to the urgent need for action with regard to highest grades. Mr. Seaton was concerned with the probable adverse public reaction to Government pay increases in the current situation. Mr. Rogers reaffirmed Mr. Seaton's views, as did also Mr. Benson. Gov. Stassen favored the increase for economic reasons and to correct existing inequities. Mr. Brundage thought this item might be the margin of a deficit budget. Mr. McElroy felt certain that Congress would increase salaries in any event and that previous Administration expressions of support for the work of the Cordiner Committee pretty well precluded a change of position now. Gov. Adams recalled the rationale of the