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JOURNAL

OF

WILLIAM H. NATCHER

MEMBER OF CONGRESS

2ND DIST. OF KENTUCKY

VOLUME III

PART I

March 16, 1955

Yesterday the House took up for consideration H. R. 4876, making appropriations for the Treasury and Post Office Departments, and the Tax Court of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956, and for other purposes. The bill was limited to three hours debate, and, at the close of general debate, same passed on voice vote.

Second Supplemental Appropriation bill for 1955 will be up for consideration in the House on Friday.

March 17, 1955

Today is St. Patrick's day and you should see the Green Ties. The McCormacks, Murphys, and O'Haras are really in their glory. Louise decided that I should wear a Shamrock with small Cabine. I consented and with my dark green tie hope to be able to gain admission to the Floor today. If Louise had her way I would also carry a Shillelagh.

Our Second Supplemental includes an item of \$25,000 for investigation and preliminary plans for a New House Office Building. The budget last year carried an item of \$6,000,000 to start the New Senate Office Building and the

House leadership has decided this year that what is sauce for goose is sauce for the gander. Our Chairman, Mr. Cannon, in explaining this item to the whole Committee at the time the bill was reported, stated that in 1908 the Old Office Building in which I have my office was constructed and at that time it was agreed by the Speaker, Mr. Cannon, and the majority of the members of the House that this building would be sufficient for all time. In 1924 due to lack of space the New House Office Building was constructed and it was generally agreed at that time that no more space would ever be needed. One of the main objections of building the Old House Office Building was brought to the attention of the House by Speaker Cannon, who thought that the Members would be on the Floor so much they would never use their offices, but it developed that the Members would stay in their offices instead of on the Floor as the Speaker desired.

A Chairmanship prior to the year of 1907 was quite an honor and in addition the Member was furnished an office in the Capitol. The other Members of the House had a rack furnished to hang their hats and they set up offices in the corridors of the Capitol or anywhere else available. Many of the Members maintained their

offices in their hotels or residences and were not permitted to use chairs and tables in the halls of the Capitol.

The new proposed House Office Building will be constructed on the parking lot just across the street from the present New House Office Building with same fronting on Independence Avenue. The first two floors of the building will be used for automobile parking space and the three top floors for office space. I presume that upon completion of this building we will agree that we have all the space we will ever need.

After usual legislative orders, Representative Cooper from Tennessee asked unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's desk the bill H.R. 4259 which provides a one year extension of the existing corporate normal tax rate and of certain existing excise tax rates and to provide a \$20 credit against the individual income tax for each personal exemption, with Senate amendments thereto, disagree to the Senate amendments and request a conference with the Senate. The clerk read the title of the bill and Joe Martin reserved the right to object and inquired of the Gentleman of Tennessee as to whether or not he knew how long it would be before they could reach an agreement in conference.

We had great laughter at this point.

The House passed this bill and the Senate turned it down by five votes. The Gentleman from Tennessee informed the Gentleman from Massachusetts that he was unable to advise the distinguished gentleman on that particular point but assured the gentleman that the Rules of the House would be followed. Mr. Martin stated that he expected this to happen and that he would not object to sending the bill to conference with the thought in mind that the House would have a chance to vote on the Conference Report prior to the expiration date of the excise taxes.

After the usual one minute speeches and extension of remarks, the House recessed until 3:00 p.m. at which time the Speaker, Sam Rayburn, presented to the Members of the House the Honorable Robert Gordon Menzies, Prime Minister of Australia, who was escorted to the Speaker's desk by Congressmen McCormack, Richards, Martin and Chipperfield. With no prepared speech and standing beside the chair of the Speaker, Mr. Menzies delivered a fine extemporaneous speech. His opening remark consisted of the following: "Mr. Speaker, it is almost 5 years since I last stood in this place. I shall never forget it. I was escorted in by four powerful

looking Members. There were a lot of lights burning. People were taking pictures and making television. I had gone to great pains to make a few intelligible remarks. I put them down and I found I could not see them. I looked around. I knew there were Members here because I could hear them but I could not see them. And, apart from my memories the only souvenir I have is a photograph which shows me leaning forward with my eyes shut and Speaker Rayburn leaning back with his eyes shut. Mr. Menzies further stated: "It is a very good thing, sir, if I might engage in a small homily, which is an ill regard for your kindness, it is a very good thing to make new friends in the world, and we must never give up hope that in time to come we will have reached to the true heart of people who are now unavailable to us through some form of dictatorship, and that we may find some friendship with them. The search for new friends must always go on. But it is just as important to remember that old friends must be kept, and that old friends can easily be lost in this world by neglect or by indifference, by misunderstanding. Our opponent in the world understands that to perfection, and he devotes the bulk of his time in propoganda, in seeking to divide us, seeking to establish some misunderstanding and every now and then some hositlity between

the people of the U. S. and the people of the British Commonwealth. We must constantly be on our guard against it.

"I would like to think, sir, that that spirit could pervade the whole of the free world. I would like to feel that in Canberra we could argue with Washington -- and we are a fairly argumentative crowd at Canberra - that we could argue with Washington -- just as London could argue with Washington-- just as we could all go on arguing with each other, not as if we are liable to become enemies, but on the footing that our friendship is indestructible and we may therefore speak frankly -- with affectionate frankness to each other. When that happens and the whole world knows that the people of the free world are not so easily put asunder by Communist propaganda, I believe that will be the most powerful deterrent weapon that the world will have produced because the enemy is hoping all the time to divide us.

As I have just had the honor to say in another place, we know, do we not, that should this pass down once more into the valley of a world war, we know, do we not, that we are all together in it.

Does anybody suppose that in such a catastrophe America would go one way

and Australia another? Or Great Britain one way and America another? Not for one moment.

The Second Supplemental Appropriations bill is up for action today in the House.

Instead of the Second Supplemental Appropriations bill for consideration today we had H.R. 3322, a bill to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 so as to improve the administration of the program for the utilization of the surplus property for educational and public health purposes. Under this bill no surplus property shall be transferred until the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare has received word from an appropriate state agency or official certification that such property is usable and needed for education and public health purposes in the state. The secretary may impose reasonable terms, conditions and restrictions upon the use of any single item of property designated under this law which has an acquisition cost of \$2500 or more.

Several weeks ago, Secretary of State Dulles informed the Congress of the U. S. that the record of the 1945 Yalta Conference would not be released at the present time. British Prime Minister Churchill, the only living

member of the wartime Big Three consisting of Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill, objected to the issuance of this record at this time. Secretary of State Dulles after a conference with Senators Styles Bridges, and William F. Knowland agreed to release the record. The 250,000 words contained in this record are now in the process of being printed for distribution out of the document room. Virginia called me today inquiring as to whether or not I could obtain a copy of the Yalta Conference Record since the press and radio were on a boom with the news of the release. I called my good friend, Thruston Morton, Assistant Secretary of State, and was informed that their office copy was in the hands of the printer and it would probably be two or three weeks before the Members of the House would obtain a copy from the Document Room. However, I was informed that the New York Times was carrying nearly the whole story. This is what is called the left handed method here in Congress where everything is so hush-hush and secret that it takes some two or three weeks for us to secure printed copies so in order to save time we buy a newspaper and read about the great secret on the front page.

At the time of the Yalta Conference President Roosevelt, wishing to make a stopover at Yalta for preliminary talks

for a new world organization, suggested that not more than 5 or 6 days be consumed and so advised Prime Minister Winston Churchill by cable on January 4, 1945. The Prime Minister wished longer time and cabled on January 10, requesting preliminary talks ahead of the main conference and further stated that he did not see any use in trying to build an organization like that in 5 or 6 days, concluding his cable with the mischievous statement: "Even the Almighty took seven."

March 18, 1955

The Supplemental Appropriations bill, which was passed over from yesterday will be up for consideration today.

The full Committee on Appropriations met this morning to consider Departments of Labor, Health, Education and Welfare appropriations for 1956. The appropriations for 1955 amounted to \$2,431,740,575. The budget estimates for 1956 called for \$2,337,522,261 agreed upon as the amount for this particular appropriation. The Subcommittee on Labor, Health, Education and Welfare did a fine job on this bill and Congressman John E. Fogarty, of Rhode Island, the Chairman of this particular subcommittee had same well in hand.

March 19, 1955

We passed the Second Supplemental Appropriation bill yesterday. This bill was H. R. 4903, and was in the nature of an emergency bill to take care of deficiencies which have arisen for various reasons in the several Departments of the Government and which must be taken care of prior to the enactment of the annual appropriation bills. Each chapter of the bill was handled by the respective Chairman of the subcommittee having jurisdiction. The bill carried recommendations for appropriations totaling \$855,212,429. This was a reduction of \$65,311,025 of the budget estimates of \$920,523,454. My subcommittees on Agriculture and Foreign Operations had two chapters in H. R. 4903. Our emergency appropriation pertained to insects and especially grasshoppers, with the amount being \$700,000. In Foreign Operations we had \$4,000,000 for Technical Assistance under the United Nations Organization Program. This \$4,000,000 item was the only item in the entire Supplemental Appropriations bill which caused any serious trouble. My Chairman of the subcommittee, Congressman Passman, of Louisiana, in presenting this particular matter, stated that he intended to be quite frank with the Members of the House, and that he was against the bill. This took every Member on the subcommittee by complete surprise, and the

Members of the House present on the Floor were very much confused. When the subcommittee agrees and reports to the full committee with the bill approved the Chairman of the subcommittee always defends the bill, and that portion of same recommended by his subcommittee. It just so happened in this particular instance that Congressmen Cannon and Taber, the Chairman and the ranking minority Member on the full Committee, were hoping that this particular item would be deleted on the Floor. Therefore, they refused to speak in favor of same. After my Chairman, Congressman Passman, flittered and fluttered about for some fifteen or twenty minutes we finally succeeded in defeating all amendments to take out the \$4,000,000 and passed the Supplemental Appropriation bill with the \$4,000,000 item intact. We had no fight whatsoever on our emergency appropriation from the Subcommittee on Agriculture.

The Legislative Subcommittee of the full Committee on Appropriations had a \$25,000 item in the Supplemental bill for use in preliminary survey and planning of the new House Office building. When the Reading Clerk, under the five minute rule, reached this particular provision of the bill, our Speaker was recognized and proposed an

amendment which provided, in substance, that a new House Office building was to be constructed on a site approved by the House Office Building Commission in accordance with plans to be prepared by or under the direction of the Architect of the Capitol, and further authorized condemnation of land, if necessary, with the Act carrying a \$2,000,000 appropriation for carrying out the purposes of the amendment, and with the amendment further authorizing any and all necessary appropriations which might be necessary to carry out the construction of any House Office building. My Chairman, Mr. Cannon, was recognized and stated that in view of the emergency involved and the urgent need of the facility, the Committee accepts the amendment and approves the expenditure. Congressman Hoffman, of Michigan, made the point of order that the amendment was legislation on an appropriation bill, but the Chairman ruled his point of order out of order due to the fact that it came too late. A point of order must follow immediately the reading of that portion of the bill, or the amendment, and when Mr. Cannon was immediately recognized, accepting the amendment for the majority side, the point of order was ruled out of order.

The press is still full of the Yalta Agreement, and Senate Republican

Leader, William F. Knowland, stated yesterday that the late President Roosevelt misled Congress on the contents of the Yalta Conference. Senate Democratic Leader, Lyndon B. Johnson, of Texas, tangled sharply with Knowland, and stated that we should leave it to the judgment of history to determine whether this move in releasing the Yalta Conference Report this week was intended to promote the cause of freedom and of America, and of the free world or whether we submerged international relations to purely domestic, political considerations.

President Eisenhower requested Congress yesterday for an immediate appropriation of \$12,000,000 to develop plans for evacuation, shelter and other means of meeting H-bomb attacks, and to solve radio active fall-out problems.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill may retire and hand over the premiership to Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden early next month, according to reports circulated in parliamentary circles early yesterday.

President Eisenhower's road program calling for \$21,000,000,000 bond issue, has created quite a bit of discussion. To me, this proposal would give the Federal Government dictatorial control over roads in the States for all time to come.

We have our postal pay increase bill up for consideration Monday under Suspension of Rules, and I have this day received a number of telegrams from the National Association of Letter Carriers and members of this particular organization, urging that I vote against Suspension of Rules on H. R. 4644. The postal employees want this bill to come out under an open rule in order that the Postmaster General's classification proposal may be defeated.

March 21, 1955

The full Committee on Appropriations met this morning and reported Interior Department and related agencies Appropriations bill for 1956. Several weeks ago 100 citizens of Congressman Frank Chelf's district proceeded to take sides concerning the \$345,000 proposed appropriation for construction of new entrance road into Mammoth Cave National Park from U. S. 31W. Congressman Chelf and a group of citizens from Barren County appeared before the subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies vigorously asking that this item be deleted. The Department of Interior held firm and refused to budge and upon making inquiry this morning, concerning this particular item I was informed by Kirwin, Chairman of this subcommittee that due to the fact that testimony

had been heard on both, the subcommittee was of the opinion that the items should remain in the budget and not be deleted. To me this clearly shows progress and will be very beneficial to my Congressional district.

This appropriation contains dollar appropriations amounting to \$298,271,246. It is interesting to note that the anticipated revenues from the Department of the Interior amount to \$315,357,000 in 1956 which means \$17,850,754 more than the amount appropriated for this particular Department. Another interesting matter is the fact that \$180,763,400 of the revenue derived go to the Treasury General Fund.

Today on the Floor, we take up H. R. 4951 which is the Agriculture Marketing Quota bill for burley tobacco. This bill will include four or five suggestions which in my opinion will be of great benefit to Kentucky, due to the fact that we have 60 million pounds more of Burley tobacco than anticipated.

We also have up for consideration H. R. 4644 which is the Postal Service bill. Under this bill we have a 6.8% pay increase for postal employees. Both of these bills are up under Suspension of the Rules and will

require a two-thirds vote for passage. I have my doubts that H. R. 4644 will receive the necessary two-thirds.

If we complete the above we will then take up H. R. 5046 which is our Health, Education, and Welfare Appropriation bill for 1956.

On Saturday, March 19, President Eisenhower appointed Harold Stassen as a special assistant with Cabinet rank handling matters dealing with disarmament. Stassen is presently Director of the Foreign Operations, which is to be taken up by the Department of State, effective June 1.

The Republican leadership is demanding further release of the secret documents concerning Teheran, Cairo and Pottsdam conferences. Release of the Yalta papers has certainly caused an uproar and Churchill's retirement soon may be connected with his feelings as to the release of the Yalta agreement. Churchill was definitely against releasing this document and together with France is vigorously protesting release of the Pottsdam, Teheran and Cairo conferences. Churchill states that such releases made for political purposes within the United States certainly will not lead to better relationships abroad. Certain statements concerning England

made by Roosevelt to Stalin, have the English up in arms and certain statements made by Churchill to Roosevelt about the French are working the same way. It seems that Churchill smugly stated that in order to be permitted to enter France must have so much money and five million men under arms and that at the present time, was not sufficiently important enough to enter into negotiations. Such statements will receive many constructions and in my opinion clearly demonstrates that the release of the Yalta document was a terrific mistake. I believe that the Potsdam, Cairo and Teheran agreements should not be released for a great number of years. Regardless of mistakes made in the past, same to a certain extent may be corrected by our present day leadership provided we have continued cooperation from the free nations of the world.

March 22, 1955

By a vote of 302 to 120, H. R. 4644, the Postal Service Compensation Act of 1955, was refused under Suspension of the Rules. Since the rules were not suspended the bill goes back to the Post Office and Civil Service Committee. I presume the next step will be for issuance of Rule.

By a vote of 151 to 260 the rules

were not suspended on H. R. 4951, which provides for marketing quotas for burley tobacco, together with other provisions which are imperative at the present time. This bill is now back before the Committee on Agriculture, and I presume will go up for a Rule.

H. R. 5046, making appropriations for the Department of Labor, and Health, Education and Welfare, and related agencies for the Fiscal Year 1956 was passed by voice vote.

Today we have up for consideration H. Res. 170 and H. Res. 171, with both of same being disapproving resolutions concerning the sale of certain rubber plants in this country. In addition to the two House Resolutions we have up for consideration H. R. 12, a bill amending the Agricultural Act of 1949 fixing price supports at 90% of parity.

March 23, 1955

H. Res. 170 required all afternoon. I voted for the adoption of the Resolution, which objected to the sale of our rubber plants. On a Roll Call vote the Resolution failed 132 yeas to 283 nays. The Kentucky delegation certainly split on this vote. Siler, Robeson, Gregory, and Watts voted no, and Chelf, Spence, Perkins and I voted yes. We are today again faced with a critical situation

as far as our so-called Cold war is concerned and if war should come soon, sale of our rubber plants at the present time is certainly a mistake.

We have up for consideration today H. R. 12, better known as 90% parity. This bill seeks to amend our Agricultural Act of 1949. I shall vote for fixed price supports at 90% of parity. I have my doubts that we will be able to pass this bill but organized labor announced yesterday that they would join with the different farm organizations who are supporting this legislation. This means that we will get quite a few votes from the large cities.

March 24, 1955

H. R. 12, which seeks to amend Agricultural Act of 1949 fixing price supports at 90% of parity, was passed over until April.

We had up for consideration, H. Res. 171, disapproving the proposed sale to Shell Oil Company of three synthetic rubber plants in the State of California. I voted for adoption of the resolution, which is a "no" vote as far as sale is concerned.

We next took up House Resolution 181, providing that the House resolve

itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of H. R. 4941, to amend the Foreign Service Act of 1946, as amended, and for other purposes. Under this Act certain compensations and privileges are granted to Foreign Service officers placing them on the same basis, insofar as these matters are concerned, with military and naval attaches, and other representatives of the Federal Government assigned to diplomatic missions abroad. This bill passed on Voice vote.

We next took up House Resolution 151, which amends the rules of the House of Representatives insofar as hearings before committees are concerned. Section 2. Rule XI (25) was amended as follows:

"(h) Each committee may fix the number of its members to constitute a quorum for taking testimony and receiving evidence, which shall be not less than two.

"(i) The chairman at an investigative hearing shall announce in an opening statement the subject of the investigation.

"(j) A copy of the committee rules, if any, and paragraph 25 of rule XI of the House of Representatives

shall be made available to the witness.

"(k) Witnesses may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights.

"(l) The chairman may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional ethics on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings; and the committee may cite the offender to the House for contempt.

"(m) If the committee determines that evidence or testimony at an investigative hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, it shall --

"(1) receive such evidence or testimony in executive session;

"(2) afford such person an opportunity voluntarily to appear as a witness; and

"(3) receive and dispose of requests from such person to subpoena additional witnesses.

"(n) Except as provided in paragraph (m) the chairman shall receive and the committee shall dispose of requests to subpoena additional witnesses.

"(o) No evidence or testimony

taken in executive session may be released or used in public sessions without the consent of the committee.

"(p) In the discretion of the committee, witnesses may submit brief and pertinent sworn statements in writing for inclusion in the record. The committee is the sole judge of the pertinency of testimony and evidence adduced at its hearing.

"(q) Upon payment of the cost thereof, a witness may obtain a transcript copy of his testimony given at a public session or, if given at an executive session, when authorized by the committee."

I will attend the American Legion Annual Banquet tonight.

Received notice from the Committee on Appropriations that the full Committee will meet tomorrow at 10 a.m. to pass upon the Department of Agriculture's appropriation bill for 1956. Our hearings began on January 11th and extended through March 11th, with hundreds of witnesses heard and with four volumes of testimony printed containing 2205 pages.

On Friday morning of last week James H. Smith, Assistant Secretary of

Navy for Air, stopped by my office to discuss with me the question of continuing necessary appropriations for completion of the large carriers now under construction. The Chairman of my Committee, Mr. Cannon, is not sold on carriers due to the fact that he maintains, with the atomic weapons, same will be obsolete. I disagree with him at the present time, and, even though the future holds carriers obsolete so far as atomic and hydrogen weapons are concerned, I am in favor of every weapon at the present time as a matter of maintaining and preserving peace. We had a nice conversation, and I informed Mr. Smith of my position in this particular matter. Before he left my office I stated that we people in Kentucky did not feel too good about the KENTUCKY (BB-66). At the beginning of World War II the keel of the KENTUCKY was laid, and, since I was in the Navy during the war, I have followed this construction carefully. The KENTUCKY at the present time is located at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company in custody of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. I have this day received a letter from Rear Admiral W. D. Leggett, Jr., which states as follows:

"My dear Mr. Natcher:

"The Honorable James H. Smith, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air, has asked me to provide you with information concerning the present status of the uncompleted battleship hull, KENTUCKY (BB-66).

"As you probably know, construction of the KENTUCKY was suspended by virtue of the Act of June 19, 1948 (Public Law 690, 80th Congress). This hull is now located at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, in custody of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. The ship is well-preserved, being watertight and weathertight to the second deck. The major portion of the main propulsion machinery is installed and the machinery spaces are dehumidified. Approximately \$45 to \$50 million was spent on the KENTUCKY to the date of suspension. Not all of these expenditures, however, are represented by the hull as it now exists, because a considerable amount of equipment has been transferred to other naval uses. Maintenance of the hull has averaged about \$5,000 annually.

"To complete the KENTUCKY as a battleship would cost an estimated \$80 million; completion as a guided missile ship would cost an estimated \$100,000,000. The Navy has no definite plans at present for the KENTUCKY.

However, because of rapid technological advances in naval warfare, particularly in the field of guided missiles, the Navy desires to retain the hull of the KENTUCKY for possible future completion or conversion.

"I trust that the foregoing will be helpful to you. If you should desire any additional information, do not hesitate to call upon me.

"Sincerely yours,

"W. D. Leggett, Jr.
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.
Chief of Bureau"

I informed Assistant Secretary of the Navy Smith that I believed we should make use of the KENTUCKY, and if not as a battleship as a guided missile ship. I shall keep in touch with the Department of the Navy concerning this matter hoping that before too long our \$50,000,000 invested in the KENTUCKY so far will not be lost.

H. R. 5085, which is the Department of Interior Appropriations bill, was up for consideration in the House today. The budget estimate for 1956 amounted to \$313,353,056. This bill recommended appropriations amounting to \$298,271,246. This made a

\$15,081,810 reduction under the budget estimates, and \$3,203,380 reduction under the 1955 appropriations. My good friend, Frank Chelf, was bitterly opposed to the \$345,000 item in this particular bill which was to be used for new entrance route to Mammoth Cave National Park. On Tuesday of this week Conrad Wirth, Director of the National Park Service, testified before the Senate Appropriations Committee to the effect that this particular item of \$345,000 would not be used to build the new entrance to Mammoth Cave National Park unless the two privately owned caves more fully provided for under S. 79 were purchased during the calendar year. He very emphatically stated that if negotiations could not be reached for the purchase of these two caves this year the \$345,000 would be transferred to another national park. Of course, this certainly did not suit Senator Clements and me, therefore, Congressman Chelf received a whole lot of assistance that he was not expecting. At the time Congressman Chelf proposed his amendment on the floor today Congressman Mike Kirwin, Chairman of the Interior Subcommittee, accepted the amendment without argument, and read a letter into the record from the Department of the Interior which was to the effect that the \$345,000 item could be

deleted. We are very much interested in the purchase of the two privately owned caves, and at the proper time Congressman Chelf knows that the new entrance route will be constructed.

March 28, 1955

On Saturday we reported out the Independent Offices Subcommittee bill making appropriations for sundry independent executive bureaus, boards, commissions, corporations, agencies, and offices for the fiscal year of 1956. This bill provides for a total of \$5,845,595,375.

On Friday the House was not in session but on this day the Senate approved the ten percent pay raise legislation for both government classified and postal workers. The vote on this bill was right close with same being 51 to 42. This was a stinging defeat for the Administration.

For several days we have had the squirrel question up for consideration and it now seems that the squirrels have won their emancipation. President Eisenhower can now be compared to Lincoln in that he has emancipated the squirrels. It seems that the White House lawn squirrels were damaging the President's trap shooting equipment

and while practicing golf a few days ago the President found the damage and the report was issued that squirrels were being trapped on the White House lawn and sent over into Virginia to be released. A lot of funny jokes have been told and especially the one where Harold Stassen, who has only recently been placed in charge of disarmament is supposed to have received his new assignment solely for the purpose of negotiating an armistice with the White House squirrels. High school girls from all over the United States began sending nuts to the White House and finally the Presidential Press Secretary James Haggerty, released the news that no squirrels would be trapped and for some reason or other no one knows who issued the order to trap the squirrels.

Today we have on the Floor for action the bill from the Subcommittee on Agriculture of the Committee on Appropriations and I have prepared a 21 page speech covering the entire bill. During my tenure in Congress this will be my first major speech and I am looking forward to the delivery of same. We will have two and one-half hours to the side and I will consume from 25 to 30 minutes. We restored the School Lunch Program cut of slightly under \$15,000,000 recommended by the President and the Department of Agriculture

and have also restored cuts and granted increases for R.E.A., Soil Conservation, Research, Control Programs and Extension Work.

If I was forced to make a bet concerning the Chinese situation at the present time I would bet that within twelve weeks we would be engaged in a Chinese war over Formosa. I believe that the Chinese think we are bluffing and will not go all the way in the defense of Formosa. Our stand has been made and we would lose face with the whole world if we backed up at the present time. I sincerely hope that my prediction is wrong.

On Friday the House Conferees gave up their fight for \$20.00 per person tax cut. They yielded to the Senate by accepting the Administration bill which merely extends for another year the existing corporation and excise tax rates due to expire April 1.

According to the press releases a Texas State Senator has talked for 22 hours and 27 minutes in a Texas State Senate filibuster. He is now in his sock feet and still talking. I presume we will see him in Washington before too many years expire.

March 29, 1955

The House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H. R. 5239 making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture and Farm Credit Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956 and for other purposes. By unanimous consent, general debate on the bill was limited to five hours, with one half of the time controlled by my Subcommittee Chairman, Mr. Whitten, and the other half controlled by Mr. H. Carl Andersen, of Minnesota. I spoke for 32 minutes and my speech appears on page 3275 of the Congressional Record. This was my first major speech since I have been a Member of Congress. As a member of the Subcommittee on Agriculture of the Committee on Appropriations, I decided that I should take an active part on the Floor when we presented our bill. Up to this time I have made short speeches including one-minute speeches and short statements extending my remarks in the Record. In preparing my speech I covered the bill completely because I knew that my Subcommittee Chairman and the Republicans would trade blows over the Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra T. Benson. My Chairman immediately started in on Benson's policies and

especially his failure to place our surplus commodities on a competitive bid basis in world trade. Congressman Halleck, Horan and Vursell immediately come to the defense of the Secretary. In presenting the bill I took up item by item, and in fact my speech was the only speech which really presented the bill and stayed away from political propaganda concerning the Secretary. Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra T. Benson is in favor of discontinuing Soil Conservation and cutting down on REA as much as possible. We added \$41,000,000 to the bill; nearly six million more for soil conservation. The \$15,236,197 reduction in school lunch appropriation for 1956 was restored. In my opinion we presented a good bill and one which clearly shows that the American farmer has the right to demand a standard of living in keeping to the contribution he makes to the National economy.

I attended the National Soil Conservation dinner last night and during the round table discussion received information concerning the State of Nevada that certainly surprised me. Our nuclear tests are now being held in the State of Nevada and there has been some criticism from certain sections of Nevada concerning the aftermath of the tests. A great many

people are of the opinion that ill effects will be suffered in the State of Nevada. It just so happens that the Federal Government owns 86% of the land in Nevada and selected Nevada for this reason.

Yesterday the largest nuclear test of the year took place in Nevada.

March 30, 1955

We had a call of the Private and Consent Calendars yesterday. The Consent Calendar is quite an institution, and a great many dangerous pieces of legislation can slip by right easily on this Calendar.

Our next order of business was the consideration of House Res. 180, providing for the consideration of H. R. 3659, a bill to increase criminal penalties under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. Under this bill, passed without too much difficulty, the maximum fine was increased from \$5,000 to \$50,000. Therefore, a violation now means a fine of \$50,000 and, or, one year in the penitentiary.

We have up for consideration today in the House the Independent Offices Appropriation Bill for 1956. Our Committee has approved six

appropriation bills so far, and passage of today's bill will bring us up to date for all of the approved bills.

March 31, 1955

The House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union yesterday for the further consideration of the bill H. R. 5240 making appropriations for sundry independent Executive Bureaus, Boards, Commissions, Corporations, Agencies, and Offices for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956 and for other purposes. This appropriations bill contained more legislation than all those previously approved by our Committee and point of order was maintained striking all points of legislation. After the legislation was out the bill passed.

Prime Minister Mario Scelba of Italy appeared before the House yesterday and made a very short speech. The speech delivered by the Prime Minister was interpreted by Mr. A. Jose De Seabra of the State Department. In substance the Prime Minister stated that the American Taxpayer had been a great help in the recovery of Italy from its World War II devastation and that the interest of the two countries coincide, with Italy

realizing that in safeguarding their freedom they are safeguarding the freedom of others.

We next took up for consideration the adoption of the Conference Report on H. R. 4259 providing for a one year extension of the 52% Corporate Tax rate. Under this bill the Corporate Normal Tax, which was scheduled to drop from 30% to 25% on April 1, 1955 will be continued for one year at 52%. In addition the \$20.00 tax credit for each taxpayer was deleted.

We next took up for consideration H. Res. 154 authorizing the Committee on Education and Labor to continue studies and investigations relating to matters coming within the jurisdiction of such committee. We next took up H. Res. 98 providing that the expenses of further investigations incurred by the Committee on the Judiciary shall not exceed \$125,000. We next took up H. Res. 201 extending our felicitations to Mount Vernon, Knox County, Ohio on the celebration of its Sesquicentennial and expressing our appreciation of the splendid services rendered to the Nation in the past 150 years. Mount Vernon is the birth place of Columbus Delano, the man who nominated Abraham Lincoln for the presidency and the birth place of Daniel Decatur Emmett, the composer

of the song "Dixie".

The entrance road to Mammoth Cave caused quite a bit of controversy and my good friend Frank Chelf originally was committed to the construction of this road but later changed his mind. This item was deleted from the Department of Interior appropriations bill and Sunday's Courier Journal carried an editorial stating in substance that Congressman Chelf's embarrassing, cute speech requesting that this item be deleted might bring him the support of people in Cave City who had invested money in establishments along existing roads but that such a victory was won at the expense of the State, and one of our finest tourist attractions. This editorial further inquired, "and we must wonder if it is the duty of a Congressman to demand nothing but second best for his people."

Our tobacco bill passed the Senate and was returned to the House today for signature of the Speaker and Clerk. Only special orders up today, and just before having lunch I was reading one of the local newspapers in the Speaker's Lounge and could hear Congressman Adam C. Powell, Jr., one of our colored Representatives from Harlem, New York, shouting at the top of his voice that on April 18th in Bandung,

Indonesia, a conference representing 2,000,000,000 colored people attended by delegates from thirty nations would be held, and, at his own expense, he would attend the meeting.

The President was today very complimentary in his remarks concerning Senator George, of Georgia, who is the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, for his truly bipartisan approach to our foreign policy program. The President stated that Senator George is trying to preserve a true bipartisan, unpartisan approach to all of our foreign problems.

The Chinese situation is still right critical and events and circumstances are pressing President Eisenhower toward a decision on committing United States Forces to the defense of Quemoy and Matsu, the Nationalists held islands close to the Red China coast. During the week White House conferences have been held with the Republican and Democratic Leadership concerning our present position insofar as these two islands are concerned, and, after attending one of the meetings, Senator George issued a statement to the effect that he believed our position as to whether or not we will defend these two particular islands should be one of silence, and that if and when the

opportunity presented itself we could then make our action known in no uncertain terms. The President is having to make decisions today in Asia which make his task all the more difficult, and this is one of the main reasons why I am positive, in my own mind, that he doesn't intend to become a candidate for reelection of his own free volition.

Within the next few weeks my Subcommittee on the appropriations for the District of Columbia of the Committee on Appropriations will start hearings, and we will take up, item by item, some \$250,000,000 in requests. One day last week I received a long, detailed letter from Congressman John L. McMillan, of South Carolina, Chairman of the Legislative Committee on the District of Columbia, in which he stated that for a period of seventeen years he had been a Member of the Committee on the District of Columbia, and during this period of time there was never complete harmony between the legislative and the appropriating committees. The Congressman maintains that a request will be made to the Legislative Committee for the inauguration of certain services, and, in many instances, when the request is denied and no legislation is forthcoming the Commissioners simply go before the Subcommittee on Appropriations for

for the District of Columbia and obtain the necessary funds to inaugurate the programs which were denied previously by the Legislative Committee. The Congressman makes the request that we work in a little closer harmony this year, thereby holding the Commissioners in line. The District, at the present time is about 65-35 colored, and the leadership in the House very carefully sees that a good substantial group of the hardheaded Southern Members are members of the District of Columbia Committee. Home Rule, and the many requests for the District are being very carefully scrutinized at the present time, and especially so since the Supreme Court saw fit to rule against segregation. The City of Washington is in dire need of additional taxes, but isn't alone among the cities of the country who are searching for additional sources of local revenue. Population changes occur very frequently in the District with Maryland and the Virginia suburbs simply bursting at the seams. In seeking new sources of revenue to finance pending pay increases for municipal employees, and to meet rising operational cost of local Government, the Commissioners hope to secure Budget Bureau support for increase in the Federal payment.

April 5, 1955

Congress called time out for a ten day Easter vacation. We have a long way to go before final adjournment if we complete work on President Eisenhower's legislative program. So far the President's Foreign Trade, Super Highway, School Construction, Health and Hawaiian Statehood bills all seem to be in trouble.

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld the conviction of former Congressman Ernest K. Bramblett, Republican of California, who was charged with accepting kickback payments over a seven months period from an office employee. The District Judge held up sentencing Bramblett after a jury trial, and a direct appeal was taken to the Supreme Court. Bramblett contended the false statement law under which he was convicted applied only to the Executive Department and not to the Legislative Department.

Sir Winston Churchill and Lady Churchill entertained Queen Elizabeth II at 10 Downing Street last night in what was generally believed to be his farewell party as a public official. Churchill is expected to hand his resignation to Queen Elizabeth at Buckingham Palace this afternoon.

During the past week John Marshall

Harlan took the oath as an Associate Supreme Court Justice. He was elevated, after a long delay in the Senate, to succeed the late Robert H. Jackson. It just so happens that Justice Harlan's grandfather, of the same name, while serving on the Supreme Court of the United States, was the lone dissenter to a 1896 opinion which held that separate but equal facilities for negroes was legal.

During the week of April 19th some eleven Soviet newspaper editors will make a tour of the United States. A great portion of their time will be spent visiting college campuses from coast to coast.

Two of our leading American journalists died last week. Joseph Pulitzer, publisher of the St. Louis Dispatch, died at the age of seventy, and Colonel Robert McCormick, publisher of the Chicago Tribune died at the age of seventy-four.

Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, retired, will head another expedition to the South Pole. Plans and preparations are now being made for the sixty-six year old explorer's fifth trip to the South Pole. The expedition will leave in November of this year.

From time to time Congressman George A. Dondero, Republican of Michigan, addresses the House for one minute, and revises and extends his remarks on the subject of Congressional behavior. During my tenure I have heard him make two speeches on this subject, and each of same pertained to dress, general behavior, Congressional demeanor, and statesmanlike qualifications which should be exhibited by every Member of the House, according to the good Congressman from Michigan. Each time that I meet the Congressman on the street and look at his black small crowned, large brimmed hat I can't keep from smiling and wondering as to whether or not this is the appropriate chapeau. If so I certainly will continue to be out of step with my plain Stetson.

Visitors in the gallery are admonished not to smoke, applaud, read, take notes, sleep or lean on the rail. Violation of any one of the above is detected by the Doorkeeper and the visitor, in some instances, is embarrassed over the admonition. The Gentlewoman from Idaho, Gracie Pfost, has insisted that our Doorkeeper, Fishbait Miller, have written instructions printed on the back of each gallery pass setting forth the do's and don'ts. Beginning as of this past week our accommodating

Doorkeeper has complied, and now Mrs. Pfost's husband, who seems to violate all of the don'ts, will be able to read same on the back of the gallery card.

General Douglas MacArthur has called upon the Defense Department to make public the entire official file of documents bearing on the effort to bring Russia into the war against Japan. The good General now states that he emphatically recommended against bringing the Soviet into the Pacific War at the time of Yalta, but certain other military men maintain that General MacArthur sent messages to the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the war pleading for concessions to get Russia into the fight against Japan.

The Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors announced last week its new proposal for providing additional sources of capital for TVA expansion. The new proposal would place a part of the TVA budget outside the Federal budget. Under this plan the TVA would have authority to issue bonds to be sold to the public generally, or to the Treasury, and with the bonds retired out of TVA income. Maintaining that one-half of the entire output would be consumed by 1957 by the Federal Government, new steam plants are essential at the present time.

April 6, 1955

Winston Churchill resigned as Prime Minister last night. Queen Elizabeth II accepted his resignation as Prime Minister and Sir Anthony Eden is expected to be named Prime Minister today.

This, to me, seems to be the opportune time for Winston Churchill to resign. At the age of 80, and with his Party holding a comfortable majority in the Parliament and as one of the great leaders of all time, this is the proper time to surrender this difficult assignment to a younger man.

I shall attend the testimonial dinner for Speaker Sam Rayburn, which is to be held here in Washington on April 16th. It seems that another testimonial dinner is to be held on the same date in Aiken, South Carolina, in honor of former Governor James F. Byrnes. Some of the politicians are of the opinion that this dinner was staged for this particular date just to have some conflict with the National Democratic Organization's dinner for our Speaker. President Eisenhower was invited to attend the Byrnes' testimonial dinner since he will be in Augusta, Georgia, for a short vacation at this particular time.

Dr. Earl A. Moore and the debating team of Western Kentucky State College, composed of Miss Jeanne Jones, Miss Elizabeth McWharter, Mr. William Short, and Mr. James Owens, stopped by my office today. Dr. Moore is the instructor and the team debates this afternoon in Virginia using as their subject, "Should Communist China be admitted to the United Nations at the present time?". We visited the Capitol and had a picture made on the Capitol steps. We next visited Senator Clements and met several members of the House and Senate during our travels.

My chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Representative Clarence Cannon, wrote me a real nice letter the day before yesterday congratulating me on my speech of March 28th. In part he stated as follows: "I take this opportunity to congratulate you not only on the splendid work you did as a member of your subcommittee during the hearings, but especially on the very convincing and effective way in which you represented the committee and presented the salient items under discussion during the consideration of the bill. You are the right man in the right place. With heartiest congratulations and best wishes for continued progress in the service of the House, your friend, Clarence Cannon."

April 8, 1955

Several years ago on one of Prime Minister Winston Churchill's visits to the White House, at the time President Roosevelt was the occupant, it seems that the President went into Churchill's bedroom and discovered the Prime Minister just emerging in the nude from his bath and hurriedly started to withdraw. Churchill told him to come in, and in a loud booming voice said: "The Prime Minister of Great Britain has nothing to hide from the President of the United States."

Winston Churchill declined a dukedom yesterday, thereby placing himself in a position to remain in the House of Commons. Queen Elizabeth II, in accepting the resignation of the greatest commoner since Pitt, offered him the highest titular dignity in the land. Churchill declined, pointing out that he has been a House of Commons man for almost fifty years, and prefers to remain one rather than accept a peerage and enter the House of Lords.

During our subcommittee hearings on Appropriations for the Department of Agriculture, we had many discussions concerning our surplus commodities and in fact our report, which accompanied the bill passed on March 28th, set

forth the fact that the Secretary of Agriculture had absolutely failed to offer our surplus commodities on a competitive bid basis in foreign commerce thereby placing the American farmer in a dangerous position. According to the Daily Summary, which I received from the U. S. Department of Agriculture as of February 28, 1955, the C.C.C. had invested in price support commodities the sum of \$7,440,156,000 made up of loans outstanding amounting to \$3,372,483,000 which includes \$2,507,673,000 of loans financed by lending agencies, and the cost value of inventories, \$4,067,673,000. Price support operations in four commodities accounted for the bulk of the February 28, 1955 loan total as follows: Cotton - 6,706,785 bales, \$1,144,632,114; wheat 396,643,186 bushels - \$880,625,495; tobacco 815,819,521 lbs. - \$407,070,545; corn 234,221,756 bushels - \$365,203,304, and other commodities amounting to \$574,960,217.

William J. Lodwick, Administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service, appeared before my subcommittee on Agricultural Appropriations, and with Undersecretary Butz testified as to the future program for agricultural attaches. It now appears that Lodwick will be succeeded as Foreign Agricul-

tural Service Administrator by Gwynn Garnett of Iowa, and Mr. Lodwick, beginning April 15th, will return to foreign field work as Agricultural Attache of Mexico.

Virginia and the children, together with Samuel, our Cocker Spaniel, sailed out of the District this morning for Kentucky. We had quite a job locating Louise's car sickness pills and Samuel's t-bone candies. Since school was not out until yesterday in Maryland, it made it impossible for all of us to go to Kentucky prior to today, and since Congress convenes again on Wednesday of next week, it now looks as if I will be in the District for the entire Easter vacation. My subcommittee on Appropriations for the District of Columbia begins its hearings on Thursday, April 14th, and for that reason I must be present when Congress convenes again.

Some of Prime Minister Winston Churchill's stories are quite humorous. It seems that on one occasion Sir Winston was entertaining a friend at his country home and the friend later records Churchill's piercing the Sunday goose. Churchill abruptly put down the carving knife and said to his wife, Clementine "You carve him Clemmie, he was a friend of mine."

Field Marshall Viscount Montgomery told Churchill in one of their earlier meetings that he did not use either alcohol or tobacco and was 100% efficient. Churchill replied, "I use both and my efficiency is 200%."

Laborite Gordon Walker, before the end of the postwar period, asked where was the "red meat" the Government had promised. Churchill immediately jumped to his feet and replied "we all look forward to the moment when we shall be able to ram "red meat" down the throats of Hon. Members opposite."

It seems that the Prime Minister was traveling by rail during one of his visits to America and remarked to a military aide that, "You know, I will wager that I have drunk this whole railroad car full of brandy in my lifetime." The aide, a liberal minded person, promptly got a tape measure and began to measure the car to determine its volume. He inquired of the Prime Minister as to how much he drank in a day. After several minutes of calculations the aide was able to inform the Prime Minister, "I am sorry Sir, you have drunk only up to the window ledge." Churchill replied, "so much to do, so little time."

Churchill on several occasions

remarked that he had taken more out of alcohol than alcohol had taken out of him.

April 11, 1955

In reading this morning's paper I discovered that we also have a Bowling Green, Virginia. It seems that a fire over the weekend wiped out nearly all the business section of this community of 800 people.

President Eisenhower will help launch the Washington Nationals on their 55th American League Season by throwing out the first ball at 1:15 p.m. today. Eighty-five year old Clark Griffith, boss of the Nationals says that President Eisenhower has the best arm of all Presidents to date. I would certainly be there today if I had a ticket.

For days now, I have received letters concerning an increase of some \$13,000,000 for the Federal Government's share of the District of Columbia revenue for the year of 1956.

This past weekend Edward J. Corsi was notified by Secretary of State Dulles that his temporary employment of 90 days had ceased and that he no

longer was Deputy Administrator of the Refugee Act but would be offered a new travel assignment to South America to make a refugee survey. Representative Francis Walter of Pennsylvania has for three months accused Corsi of being a member of several Communist organizations. Representative Walter has been persistent in his plea that Corsi be fired and notwithstanding his positive position concerning Communist organizations he has declared from time to time that he was mistaken in accusing Corsi of belonging to certain organizations but was not wrong in the entire accusation. Mr. Corsi is a naturalized Italian and the Italians in New York City and New York State are up in arms about this matter. My good friend, former Representative Jack Javits, the conqueror of former Representative Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., has taken this case up and maintains that a great injustice has been done Mr. Corsi. The National Chairman of the Republican Party will hold a conference today with Mr. Corsi and it seems to me that Secretary of State Dulles committed a grave error in this case. After being accused as a fellow traveler, Secretary Dulles informed the world at large that he was the best man in the U. S. for the job. With no public explanation so far, the

Secretary's action the last weekend is peculiar to say the least.

On Saturday, April 9, Russia moved to block off Mutual Aid Pacts with Britain and France in retaliation for those countries' approval of West German rearmament. The Russian Government has asked the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) to renounce the Anglo-Soviet and Franco-Soviet treaties.

I have often remarked that next to Kentucky, the people of Virginia are probably the most outstanding people in the country. Beginning with Thomas Wythe, Thomas Jefferson and others we have true leadership and brilliant minds in the state of Virginia through the years. The Supreme Court of the United States is now receiving briefs from the different states which contain suggestions concerning the Segregation Decision and when same should be imposed. Virginia, through her Attorney General, J. Lindsay Almond, Jr., stated that integration is impossible at this time in Virginia because Negroes have a lower level of educational attainments and a higher rate of infectious disease than whites. This brief declared to the courts that integration at the present time would result in complete collapse of the state's public schools

and that in Virginia where Negroes constitute 22% of the population, 78% of the cases of syphilis and 83% of the cases of gonorrhoea occur among Negroes; also intelligence tests given high school seniors show, in the cities, the lowest 25% of white pupils has a higher level of attainment than the highest 25% of Negroes. One out of 50 of the whites are illegitimate and one out of five Negroes are illegitimate. It would seem to me that the above reasons set forth in the Virginia brief would be somewhat difficult to answer.

April 12, 1955

The full Committee on Appropriations meets at 10 a.m. tomorrow to consider the Appropriation bill for State, Justice and Judiciary Departments for Fiscal Year 1956. Beginning at 2 p.m. Thursday our subcommittee on Appropriations for the District of Columbia will begin hearings. According to the news items appearing in the local papers, we will have quite a bit of pressure concerning the amount for the Federal contribution.

According to the papers, Iris Blicht the new Gentlewoman from Georgia who defeated our baseball pitcher, Don

Wheeler, is critically ill in a Georgia hospital. Before we adjourned I had occasion to talk with Mrs. Blich for several minutes on the Floor of the House and at that time she certainly appeared to be anything but well.

My good friend, Congressman John A. Blatnik, Democrat of Minnesota, while traveling in Germany a year and one-half ago met a very attractive German secretary at Hamburg, Germany, and returned to Germany this past week to marry Gisla Hager.

The Washington Senators defeated the Baltimore Orioles 12-5 yesterday and the President made a bad pitch. He has been suffering with Bursitis in his right shoulder and the ball hit the ground long before it reached the line of the players who were to catch same. The Orioles took the lead from the Washington team 3-2. The President turned to Clark Griffith, 85 year old boss of the Washington team and said it was time to take out the rabbit's foot. The Chief Executive reached into a pocket and pulled out the paw of a long-gone bunny, a good luck token he carried when he was supreme commander of 3,000,000 men in World War II, and Griffith came up with another rabbit's foot. A picture was made of the two rabbit's feet being rubbed together and shortly thereafter the Washington

club took the lead and all ended well. Judging by the games that I witnessed last year a win by the Washington Senators was right unusual.

Our ex-candidate for President, Adlai Stevenson, came up in a speech last night with a four-point plan to solve the Formosa crisis. Mr. Stevenson believes that the present Administration should promptly consult with our friends, requesting that they join us in an open declaration continuing the use of force in Formosa. His other three suggestions run along the same lines and to me are not very practical. I recall that we took a stand in Korea and ended up with only three or four of our friends assisting.

Senator Hennings of Missouri has introduced legislation allowing a candidate for the United States Senate to spend \$50,000. Candidates for the House to spend \$12,500 and candidates for the House from the state at large would be permitted to spend the same amount as a candidate for Senator. The existing laws are so unrealistic that they have become debt wells. For example, a candidate for the Senate is permitted to spend \$10,000 or \$25,000 and a great many Members of the House are limited to \$2,500.

I am just wondering whether the T.V.A. proposal for financing its own necessary expenses by issuance of a series of revenue bonds payable out of income will be received by the Congress of the United States. Our subcommittee on Public Works of the Committee on Appropriations will shortly begin hearings and the question of whether or not the \$27,500,000 appropriation for the fiscal year of 1956 to the T.V.A. should be raised, will be decided.

Great publicity today has been given to announcement that the Salk Polio Vaccine is safe, effective and potent. The vaccine, according to today's announcement was found 80 to 90 percent effective in preventing paralytic polio in tests last year. This announcement came from Dr. Thomas Francis, Jr., from the University of Michigan, who has been working with Dr. Jonas E. Salk of the University of Pennsylvania. According to today's announcement the vaccine is almost 100% effective and can bring complete triumph over polio. The vaccine was found to be incredibly safe and with only .4 of 1% of children suffering minor effects.

April 13, 1955

I have just returned from full

Committee meeting of the Committee on Appropriations for discussion of the bill making necessary appropriations for Departments of State, Justice and Judiciary. The bill was favorably reported and will be up for consideration on the Floor of the House beginning at 12 noon today. This is rapid procedure and to me is probably too fast. It seems to me that all Appropriations bills should lay over at least three days to give the Members of the Committee a chance to hear any complaints before the bill goes to the Floor. My attention was attracted especially to that part of the bill pertaining to expenses by the Department of State in bringing to this country Members of the Reichstag for observation purposes. One out of four in the lower House and seventeen percent of the Upper House have been in this country during the present fiscal year at our expense. In checking the votes of these Members who came to us as our guests, at our expense, we find that a great many of the Socialist Democrats voted against the United States on all questions during the present fiscal year. Here we have another example of biting the hand that feeds you.

The above appropriations bill carries a total of \$450,398,227, which is \$21,145,385 more than the

1955 appropriation and \$33,133,685 less than the 1956 estimates.

I received a letter today from Alfred Kohlberg of New York City, enclosing a copy of a letter recently mailed to John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State. In the Secretary's letter from Mr. Kohlberg, I find a statement made by Senator Harry S. Truman which was quoted by the New York Times on June 24, 1941, which, by the way, was prior to the time that Senator Truman was Vice President Truman. It seems that the Senator stated the day following Hitler's attack on Russia that "if we see that Germany is winning, we ought to help Russia and if we see that Russia is winning we ought to help Germany and that way let them kill as many as possible, and although the Senator further stated that he did not want Hitler to be victorious under any circumstances, neither of the countries thought anything of their pledged word." It developed later that our Senator Truman was very much correct.

April 14, 1955

Due to prior commitment that no roll call vote would be held on Appropriations bill appropriating necessary funds for State, Judiciary,

and Justice, the bill was passed over until today.

President Eisenhower, in an international good will gesture, yesterday decided to send latest information on the Salk polio preventive to 75 nations around the globe, including Russia and other Red countries. The World Health Organization which is composed of every nation in the world will also be provided with copies of this information. Confirmation of the Salk Polio Preventive serum comes as a great blessing at this time and this scientist who realizes no benefit financially from his discovery is certainly to be commended. According to my information, one of the Members of the House will immediately introduce a bill providing for the awarding of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

I have this day received a letter from the Kentucky Farm Bureau informing me that this organization is against H. R. 12 which provides for fixed price support at 90% of parity. This comes as a surprise because I had hoped that our Farm Bureau in Kentucky would not join the United States Chamber of Commerce, Farm Bureau and American Manufacturers Association in this matter. To me,

H. R. 12 is a good bill, and unless I change my mind I shall cast the vote of our district for passage. According to figures recently released by the Department of Agriculture the price support program losses for the last 20 years and the losses for 1954 and estimated losses for 1955 are almost amazing.

The loss for corn under our price support program for 1933-1953 amounted to \$70,910,347 with the loss for 1954 \$80,502,840 and with estimated loss for 1955 being \$101,623,000; for wheat we have \$95,127,450 for 1933-1953 and \$71,338,944 for 1954 and \$123,757,000 estimated for 1955; for butter, 1933-1953 \$48,743,225, for 1954, \$35,690,135 and estimated for 1955 \$148,547,802; for dried and fluid milk 1933-1953 \$62,756,242, for 1954 \$82,363,920 and estimated for 1955 \$129,560,843; cheese \$25,025,429, \$12,659,476 and \$64,440,725; barley 1933-1953 \$10,063,725, 1954- \$2,047,568 and estimated for 1955 \$8,990,000. For oats 1933-1953 we had \$1,374,255, 1954 \$4,185,553 and estimated for 1955 \$26,204,000; rye, \$162,501, \$68,967 and \$1,081,000; all basics (corn, cotton, peanuts, rice, tobacco, wheat) 1933-1953 \$20,720,931 for 1954 \$177,385,988 and estimated for 1955 \$225,578,209. Total price supports for 1933-1953 \$1,049,994,726, for 1954

\$558,393,687 and estimated for 1955 \$860,011,923.

Subcommittee on District of Columbia starts at 2 p.m. and according to correspondence received in the last few days we will have a right full session.

April 16, 1955

Hearings before the Committee on House Appropriations for the District of Columbia are well underway. The Commissioners and their top budget officers completed general statements during the past week concerning the city's needs and finances. Examination of the Department's estimates item by item will continue for the next few weeks. The hearings are held behind closed doors and this eliminates all of the pressure from the many groups and factions in the District of Columbia. According to estimates of revenue the present \$175,000,000 budget is in balance but same will be out of balance some \$12,000,000 if Congress enacts pending government pay raise measure.

One of our Nike guided missiles went astray on Thursday of last week, traveling from Fort Meade to the middle of the Baltimore and Washington

Parkway Drive. This is some miles south of the entrance to the Fort and created quite a bit of excitement.

On Thursday the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill H. R. 5502 making appropriations for the Department of State, Justice, Judiciary and related agencies. After some argument concerning minor matters this bill passed by voice vote.

The Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company is still on strike. This is the fifth week with several bridges burned and one or two homes of employees bombed. Yesterday, the "Dixie Flyer" composed of some nine cars, the property of the Nashville and Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway, which is affiliated with the L and N Railroad Company was derailed eight miles south of Nashville, Tennessee. The railroad strike plus the telephone strike certainly is upsetting from one to fourteen states in the South.

Prime Minister Anthony Eden announced on Friday that a British general election would be held on May 26. Parliament was ordered dissolved effective May 6.

Chief Justice Warren issued a

statement that he definitely was not a candidate for any public office and would spend the rest of his life on the bench. This announcement followed a Gallop Poll declaring him second to President Eisenhower.

Senator Welker, Republican from Idaho collapsed in the Senate Dining Room and was taken to the office of Dr. George Calver, Capitol Physician. Dr. Calver, after examining Mr. Welker said he was in a state of exhaustion and recommended an extended period of rest. In carrying out the duties of Congress sometimes you are too tired to sleep and too irritable to eat.

Former President Harry S. Truman arrived in Washington yesterday with Mrs. Truman and plans to attend the Democratic dinner in honor of our Speaker Sam Rayburn which is to be held tonight. According to my information there will be some four thousand stalwarts who are either guests or who have paid \$100 for a ticket. In fact the crowd will be so large that the place for holding the dinner was changed and we now meet at the National Guard Armory.

I received a letter today from Thruston B. Morton, Assistant Secretary of State, outlining future pro-

cedure for transmitting communications through the Diplomatic Pouch. Communications on official business from Members of Congress to United States Diplomatic Ministers, Consuls or to U.S. Nationals who are employees of the United States Government on duty abroad may be sent by pouch with all such communications franked and not requiring postage. Other communications to private citizens abroad or officials of foreign governments must be sent into the State Department unsealed and upon investigation decision will be made as to transmittal through the Diplomatic Pouch.

I shall attend the dinner to be held by the Kentucky Society at the Willard Hotel. Tonight all of the Kentucky delegation will probably be seated at table 312.

April 18, 1955

The Sam Rayburn dinner was enjoyed by 3702 Democrats from all over the United States. This was one of the most delightful dinners that I have ever attended. A catering firm from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, brought the food and servants from Pennsylvania and served this dinner in the National Guard Armory to perfection. I was amazed because I felt that the dinner would be somewhat like one of the national conventions where noise and good fellowship prevail and not much order. The order was fine and the food was delicious.

My good friend, the Speaker, received a tremendous roaring welcome when he came into the Armory with a Texas lone-star flag in the lapel of his dinner jacket. The purpose of the dinner was to honor Mr. Rayburn, who has served longer than any other man as Speaker, and for 41 years has been a member of the House of Representatives. From the standpoint of tenure only one man in history, Senator Carl Hayden, of Arizona, exceeds the Speaker from the standpoint of longevity. All of the big names in the Democratic party were present at this time.

Three of the more distinguished ladies present were Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Mrs. Harry S. Truman. As a general rule the National Democratic Committee in holding these annual dinners, dedicates same to Jackson and Jefferson the founders of our party, but this year this particular dinner was in honor of our Speaker. A huge cartoon appeared on a canvas in front of the Speaker's table with Jackson and Jefferson discussing the fact that Rayburn was a good fellow and with the statement - "We couldn't have been replaced by a nicer guy" appearing.

The speakers were Senator Lyndon Johnson of Texas, Representative John

McCormack of Massachusetts, Former President Harry S. Truman, Adlai Stevenson, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Paul Butler, National Democratic Chairman, and Mr. Rayburn.

Former President Truman made the best speech that I have ever heard him make and both he and Mr. Rayburn maintained that the Democratic party, while maintaining a loyal opposition, certainly has not been guilty of treason, and that the aim of the Democratic party was not to make people fight for the United States, but to win friends over to victory, and to a peaceful and prosperous world. A portion of Mr. Rayburn's speech is as follows:

"...Between the brief bright day of Woodrow Wilson and the warming sun of Franklin Roosevelt, there came a long Republican eclipse. In its murk and gloom this Nation almost lost its way.

"The profound changes wrought in American life by recent Democratic Administrations rooted this Nation so strongly in freedom's soil that no storm of alien doctrine can uproot it. The tempests of communism blow, but not a leaf of our tree is disturbed.

"We have seen lies and libel before, wholesale and retail. But this is the first time that lies and libel have been used on an atom bomb scale to besmirch millions of people with the black charge of treason.

"Jefferson, Jackson, Roosevelt and Truman - these were quite different men. But they were alike in these things. They cared about people. They had courage. Their hearts were big. They burned with the humanitarian spirit that has always animated the Democratic Party.

"Now we have come upon times whose like is not in the annals of mankind. For today it is possible to enshroud all men in a seamless, cloudborne garment of poison and make our planet as lifeless as the moon.

"I would therefore beseech Democrats and Republicans alike to conduct themselves with a becoming restraint in all those things that pertain to war and peace, since they pertain also to the life and death of all men.

"Today darkness broods over the fact of the earth. Evil stalks the hills. No man knows what devouring monsters tomorrow may bring us. May I say then to my countrymen: Let us

in this desperate hour nobly conceive and nobly act in the greatness that is our heritage and our light and our life."

In coming down to work this morning, I heard over the radio the announcement concerning the death of Albert Einstein. He was admitted to Princeton Hospital on Friday and died at 1:15 a.m. today.

After the dinner and before the former President left the Armory he made the statement that he was somewhat tired of Democratic Senators kissing Eisenhower on both cheeks. He probably will receive some criticism on this statement. After the fine speech he had made, I had hoped he would avoid some of these unnecessary statements.

April 22, 1955

On Tuesday, April 19th, the Board of Visitors to the Naval Academy convened in Annapolis. Our first meeting was held in the board room at Maury Hall beginning at 10:30 a.m. President Eisenhower named as his appointees to the Board Walter E. Borden, President, National Shawmut Bank of Boston, Massachusetts. This gentleman graduated from the United States Naval Academy

in 1916, and served through 1921; Dr. Harlan H. Hatcher, President of the University of Michigan; Dr. Henry T. Held, Chancellor of New York University; Reverend Theodore M. Hesburgh, President of Notre Dame; Dr. James R. Killian, Jr., President of Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Admiral Ben Moreell, U.S. N. Retired, now Chairman of the Board, Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. All of these gentlemen are outstanding Americans, and it certainly was a pleasure for me to serve with them on the Board of Visitors.

Our meeting was called to order by Mr. Borden, and Admiral Moreell was elected permanent Chairman. We proceeded to make our investigation of the Naval Academy, the Cadet Corps, and all financial requests of the Academy for additions, extensions, new buildings and grounds. Six important requests are now being made by the Naval Academy, and they are as follows:

(1) Modern airfield.

(2) Acquisition of land through the filling in of Dewey and Santee Basins, and the area to seaward of Farragut Field. (In the year 1845 the Naval Academy had some 7 instructors, 50 midshipmen, and 40 acres of land. Today there are some 246 acres of land, and 3600 midshipmen with

several hundred instructors. Beginning with the 40 acre tract we have a filling in for all of the balance of the land now held by the Academy. A great portion of this land was in the river and bay. The acquisition of land now requested will be a filling in process in water and will cost \$79,000 per acre.)

(3) Two wings to be added to Bancroft Hall.

(4) A need for auditorium which can seat 5000 persons.

(5) Adequate stadium.

(6) Additional barracks for enlisted personnel.

We had lunch in Bancroft Hall, the largest dormitory in the world. This one building houses all of the midshipmen, and a great number of enlisted personnel. It contains nearly 2000 rooms. As soon as we entered Bancroft Hall a picture was taken of the Board of Visitors, and, as the midshipmen marched into the hall certain midshipmen dropped out of ranks who were from the Congressional Districts of the Board of Visitors. Two who dropped out are Kentucky midshipmen Albert Lee Dawson of Russellville, Kentucky and W.G.S. Simpson, of Bardstown, Kentucky. These two young gentlemen took me to their table and introduced me to midshipmen

present, and there I had lunch.

To see the midshipmen and watch them march certainly makes your heart feel good. Here we have a select group of young Americans, and they certainly look fine.

We attended a reception at Admiral Boone's residence, who, by the way, is the Superintendent of the Academy, and after dinner I drove back to Washington.

On Wednesday, April 20th, we took up for consideration H. R. 4644 to increase the rates of basic salaries of postmasters, officers, supervisors and employees in the postal field service pursuant to House Res. 211. I voted for passage of this bill, and the roll call vote showed 224 aye votes and 189 no votes. The percentage of increase is 8.8. The President agreed to 7.6, and still threatens to veto because we exceeded the amount. Some 12 Republicans joined the Democrats on this vote. The 189 were all Republicans with the exception of the number of Democrats mentioned above.

Yesterday the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of H. R. 4393 to

provide for the construction and conversion of certain modern naval vessels, and for other purposes. This bill provides, in part, for conversion of certain cruisers into naval ships, and for construction of one additional large carrier and two additional atomic submarines. I have this day directed a letter to the Members of the Armed Services Appropriations Committee notifying them of the present status of the Kentucky, and requesting that mention be made in the report that this ship should be used as a guided-missile ship, thereby saving from \$40,000,000 to \$50,000,000 in additional money necessary in cutting down a cruiser. I voted for passage of this bill, and on a roll call vote the vote was 373 to 3. The three voting against the bill were Davis of Wisconsin, Harrison of Nebraska and Marshall of Minnesota.

April 23, 1955

We completed hearings on the District of Columbia budget for all Department Heads, and Divisions yesterday, and on Thursday and Friday nights of next week we will hear interested citizens. We will mark the bill up and same will go to the Floor for action.

On Wednesday of this week President Eisenhower delivered to the Congress of the United States a written message recommending that Congress authorize for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956, the sum of \$3,500,000,000 for Mutual Security. Aid to Asia is stressed in this message, and same recommends that Congress approve funds amounting to \$712,500,000 for economic problems; \$172,000,000 for a continuation of technical cooperation programs; \$175,500,000 for special programs; \$165,000,000 for development assistance; \$200,000,000 for the special President's fund; \$100,000,000 for worldwide contingency fund; \$1,300,000,000 for defense support serving both economic and defense purposes by supplementing the efforts of countries, particularly in Asia carrying out defensive measures beyond their current financial capacity; \$1,717,200,000 for military assistance and direct forces support. Congress provided in the Mutual Security Act of 1954 for the termination of the Foreign Operations Administration by June 30, 1955. The President will shortly issue an executive order effective June 30, 1955 transferring the affairs of the Foreign Operations Administration to the Department of State, except for certain military aspects which will be transferred to the Department of Defense.

Red China's Premier Chou En-lai told the Asian-African conference today "Red China has no intention of going to war with the United States."

Delegates quoted Chou as making the statement before a closed session of the conference's Political Committee.

From delegates' accounts of the meeting which was still in progress, it was not immediately clear in what way Chou referred to the United States.

But they agreed that the Chinese Premier said "I respect the political and economic system of America, and China has no intention of going to war with the United States."

Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-Texas) yesterday said, "I am for extending the East front of the Capitol," and the wheels began to move at once. The House Office Building Commission, headed by Rayburn, authorized Capitol Architect J. George Stewart to draw up a budget estimate for the project for inclusion in the 1955-56 legislative appropriation bill. This provides mondy for congressional needs and will come up for action in a month or so. Rayburn also said no authorization bill will be needed. Nobody knows now exactly what is contemplated in moving the front of the Capitol out, but it

has been talked about for 50 years. The East Front never has been architecturally right; the Capitol dome seems to hang over the edge. The front isn't close to being even with the House and Senate wings. Nowadays there's a critical and chronic space shortage at the Capitol. Last year, a plan called for extending the East Wing 40 feet at a cost of \$7,500,000 for 42 more offices and two large hearing rooms. But the shortage of restaurant space apparently is the motivating factor this time. The House Administration Committee, which had been studying the restaurant problem, introduced a resolution on Thursday for the extension. The House approved it. In years past, the Senate twice has voted for the extension, but the House didn't. Now the House is on record favoring it. But Senators recently have been talking about building an entire new Capitol building. How they will react to a House move to spend money on expanding the old one, remains to be seen.

April 26, 1955

Yesterday, Commanders Matthews and Clark of the Naval Academy submitted to me for my signature the annual report for the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland for the year of 1955. The

Board of Visitors must submit a report to the President concerning their recommendations. As a Member of the Board of Visitors I served on Committee Number II, to make investigation concerning the Department of Seamanship and Navigation, Electrical Engineering; Department of Aviation; Foreign Language; and the necessity at the present time of new airport facilities. We divided the Board of Visitors into four Committees and after making our inspection and investigation, consolidated our reports into final report to the President. We made certain recommendations concerning the curriculum and paid special attention to the development of education television programs now in process at the Academy. This program entails an annual cost of some \$300,000 but after seeing live television instruction direct from the instructor to the classroom, I was amazed. I definitely am for the continuation of this program and believe that same should be expanded.

We recommended that a suitable air facility for indoctrination and training of midshipment at an approximate cost of \$16,900,000 be constructed. This would include 4,500 acres of land and a 10,000 foot runway. We also recommended that due to the inadequacy of the outdoor training area for sports and physical exercises that 60½ acres

of land be reclaimed by hydraulic fill from the Severn River adjacent to Farragut Field and the filling of Santee and Dewey Basins at a total cost of \$7,700,000. We further recommended extension of Bancroft Hall, the dormitory for midshipmen, in the amount of \$7,500,000. In addition to extension of Bancroft Hall we recommend the construction of an auditorium with a seating capacity of 5000 with an estimated cost of \$4,875,000. We also recommended a new academic building costing \$2,300,000 to replace Luce Hall. We also recommend additional barracks for the enlisted personnel to cost some \$1,339,000, and a new stadium to cost approximately \$3,000,000. In our conclusion we emphasized our belief that the improvements recommended, particularly the air facility and the addition of 60½ acres of land are matters of great emergency and should no longer be deferred. This report was signed by Mr. Walter E. Borden, President, National Shawmut Bank of Boston; Dr. Harlan H. Hatcher, President, University of Michigan, Dr. Henry T. Heald, Chancellor of New York University; Rev. Theodore M. Hesburg, President University of Notre Dame; Dr. James R. Killian, Jr., President, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Admiral Ben Moreell, U. S. Navy, (Ret.) Chairman of the Board; Senator Dennis Chavez; Senator Everett M. Dirksen;

Representative Richard E. Lankford, 5th District of Maryland; Representative Joseph P. O'Hara, 2nd District of Minnesota; Representative Harold C. Ostertag, 39th District of New York; Representative F. Edward Hebert, 1st District of Louisiana; and myself.

Commanders Matthews and Clark ate lunch with me in the House Restaurant and we visited the House and Senate Chambers. I certainly enjoyed myself on the Board of Visitors and still am just a little prejudiced as far as the Navy is concerned.

The House met yesterday but we had no legislative business. Today we take up H. R. 4954 a bill to amend the Clayton Act and H. R. 5645, the bill pertaining to the construction of an office building for the Atomic Energy Commission. Tomorrow we take up H. R. 2107, a bill pertaining to the Reserve Forces and especially to Armory buildings. On Thursday and Friday we have H. R. 12, the bill concerning price supports for consideration.

Burl S. St. Clair, President of the Kentucky Farm Bureau and his Executive Secretary John W. Koon stopped by my office on Monday of this week and stated that the Kentucky Farm Bureau had reversed its stand on

H. R. 12 and that they favor flexible price supports. Last fall at the State Farm Bureau convention they endorsed fixed price supports at 90 percent of parity and I was very proud of their action and I am definitely sold on this bill. Unless there are some amendments put on this bill that destroy the intent and purpose of same I will cast my vote for passage of same fixing price supports at 90 percent of parity.

April 27, 1955

I had breakfast this morning with the League of Women Voters. The two delegates from Kentucky were Mrs. Sullivan from Paducah and Bottomheimer from Louisville. Senator Clements, and John Robsion and I held down the delegation seats.

Started on H. R. 5645 in the House yesterday with this bill authorizing the Atomic Energy Commission to construct a modern office building in or near the District of Columbia to serve for its central office. The bill provided in part that the building should be constructed within a radius of 30 miles of the District and this provision brought on lots of controversy. A number of the Members of the House believe that the records

for this Commission should not be located this close to the Capitol and should be at least 200 or 250 miles away. The controversy brought on a postponement and final action will be completed today.

The Washington Post and Times Herald carried an article on the front page entitled "McMillan Asks Apology to Folks Back Home." It seems that in yesterday's Washington Post and Times Herald an editorial appeared to the effect that Representative McMillan of South Carolina was attempting to make the District of Columbia into a hick town. Representative McMillan stated that the paper called his home town a hick town. McMillan is Chairman of the District Committee, this being the legislative committee. I am on the Subcommittee on Appropriations for the District of Columbia and I know of the attitude of Mr. McMillan toward certain District activities which the two papers do not agree with. The Representative is against home rule and believes that the District should carry their own tax burden. In the article today Representative McMillan stated that when the paper called his home town a "hick town" he felt he should call their hand and that notwithstanding what they said about him personally, his home town was not a hick town and that the editor of the

Washington Post and Times Herald should direct a letter to the Mayor of Florence, South Carolina apologizing for the statement made. It seems that Rep. McMillan called for an investigation concerning the parking situation here in the District and also an investigation concerning the Police Department and the spending of the taxpayers' money. These investigations do not meet with the approval of the local press and both papers are of the opinion that same are a waste of time and money. In today's editorial the Washington Post and Times Herald states that McMillan did not read the editorial carefully because his home town was not described as a hick town. It stated that McMillan was making the District a hick town by forcing it to abandon its parking regulations and that the small city of Florence was referred to because it has regulations of the sort that Mr. McMillan would disapprove here.

The question involving the Federal Government's contribution of \$20,000,000 to the District with the taxpayers in the District paying only \$22.00 per thousand on real estate tax certainly needs some investigation and I intend to go into this matter in detail at the time the District of Columbia's budget and appropriations

for same go to the Floor under our Appropriations bill.

Secretary of State Dulles now agrees that he favors discussion in conference with Chou-En-lai concerning the present Chinese situation, without Chinese Nationalists representation. Chou-En-lai's statement several days ago in effect that China does not want war with the United States certainly came as a surprise to me.

Soviet Russia agreed yesterday to a meeting of the big four Ambassadors on May 2 to spell out final terms for an Austrian state treaty.

The Senate Finance Committee favorably reported a three-year extension of President Eisenhower's liberalized Reciprocal Trade Program after sidetracking proposed mandatory quotas on oil imports and other "crippling" restrictions.

April 28, 1955

We received a message from the President of the United States yesterday concerning the development of Agriculture's human resources. After the agricultural appropriations bill, the Secretary of Agriculture and the President have discovered that in

this country we have a large number of American farmers whose cash income is small. The President in his message to Congress stated in part as follows:

"In this wealthiest of nations where per capita income is the highest in the world, more than one-fourth of the families who live on American farms still have cash incomes of less than \$1,000 a year. They neither share fully in our economic and social progress nor contribute as much as they would like and can contribute to the Nation's production of goods and services.

"This human problem is inadequately pictured by charts and figures. Curtailed opportunity begets an economic and social chain reaction which creates unjustified disparity in individual reward. Participation diminishes in community, religious, and civic affairs. Enterprise and hope give way to inertia and apathy. Through this process all of us suffer. This problem calls for understanding and for action.

"We must open wider the doors of opportunity to our million and a half farm families with extremely low incomes -- for their own well-being and for the good of our country and all our people.

"Recommendations to achieve this end have been made to me by the Secretary of Agriculture. I transmit them to you, with my general approval, for your consideration.

"The Secretary's recommendations for starting the program are based on the accompanying report prepared for him by the Department of Agriculture, entitled "Development of Agriculture's Human Resources, a Report on Problems of Low-Income Farmers." This report, more than a year in preparation, emphasizes the long-range nature of the low-income problem in agriculture and will serve to stimulate continuing study and action. Nevertheless an immediate start is extremely important."

April 29, 1955

It seems that President Eisenhower is corresponding with Russia's Marshall Zhukov. Marshall Zhukov was Commanding General of the Russian forces during the closing days of World War II and served with Eisenhower in the early days of Berlin. The President stated that his letters to Zhukov were personal and due to Zhukov's present position in the Russian Government great hopes of peace and agreement are discussed. Zhukov recently wrote a letter to the Overseas Press Club at New York in

which he stated that the common people of the world whether in New York, Moscow, London or Paris do not want war. His statement further contained the comment that he felt sure that the President of the United States remembered their common assurances concerning the peaceful intentions of their countries and will do his best to promote practically the cause of peace. I hope that something good results from this correspondence and since diplomacy today works in strange ways maybe we will have a turn for the better.

April 30, 1955

For the past two nights our Subcommittee on the District of Columbia Appropriations has held meetings in the Caucus Room on the third floor of the Old House Office Building for the purpose of hearing all interested citizens who desire to testify as to the needs of the schools, Fire Department, streets, sanitation and other governmental functions here in the District. The first night we heard 35 witnesses and last night we heard 37 witnesses. Some of the testimony was right unusual and delivered by crackpots. We had members of the progressive party, Teachers' Association, Americans for Democratic Action and almost every organization imaginable

present. My Chairman, Mr. Rabaut of Detroit, Michigan, is about 71 years of age and a fine gentleman.

The Senate Roads Subcommittee approved a highway construction program calling for Federal and state outlay of \$21,000,000,000 over the next five years. In approving the measure the Subcommittee scrapped major features of the Eisenhower Administration proposed ten-year plan and \$101,000,000,000 highway program. The chief item dropped by the Subcommittee was the Administration's proposal to set up a special Government corporation to float 30-year bonds to finance a \$27,000,000,000 Federal contribution for interstate highways. The Subcommittee bill provides for a Federal expenditure of \$7,700,000,000 for interstate highways for the next five years beginning as of July 1, 1956. The states would provide an additional \$2,500,000,000 under a 75--25 matching arrangement. This bill also contains a recommendation that Federal tax on motor fuels be raised 1 cent per gallon thereby gaining an additional \$750,000,000 per year and that truck weights exceeding state imposed limits be rigidly enforced over federally approved highways.

May 3, 1955

Today we start on H. R. 12, a bill fixing price support at 90 percent of parity. We anticipate quite a battle but believe that we have a 50-50 chance to pass this bill.

Yesterday my Chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, Mr. Whitten, asked unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill H. R. 5239 making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture and Farm Credit Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956 and for other purposes, with Senate amendments thereto, disagree to the Senate amendments and agree to the conference asked by the Senate. Speaker Rayburn appointed the following conferees: Messrs. Whitten, Marshall, Deane, Natcher, Cannon, Horan, Vursell, Taber, and H. Carl Andersen. This was my first assignment as a conferee and since I am the freshman member of this particular subcommittee I was somewhat surprised when the Speaker named me as a member. Yesterday afternoon at 1:30 the conferees from the House proceeded to the Senate side and met with the Senate conferees: Senators Richard Russell of Virginia, Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana, Carl Hayden of Arizona, Milton Young of North Dakota, Carl E.

Mundt of South Dakota and A. Willis Robertson of Virginia. The Senate increased the appropriations under this bill nearly \$5,000,000 and their increases were contained in the items pertaining to the following subjects: Research, Plant and Animal Disease and Pest Control, Extension Service Penalty Mail, Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Conservation Program, Marketing Research and Agriculture Estimates, Marketing Services, Foreign Agriculture Service, Agricultural Adjustment Services, Sugar Act, Farmers Home Administration, Office of General Counsel, Office of the Secretary, Commodity Credit Corporation, Wheat to Pakistan, Famine Relief to Friendly Peoples and General Provisions - Sec. 504.

We agreed on every subject with the exception of Research and due to the vigorous disagreement over this particular subject, we passed over same in the beginning and concluded our conference by going back again to this subject. It developed that the Senate's \$1,040,000 increase could not be agreed to because the Senate conferees would not agree to put the necessary language in the report designating certain projects that we are interested in on the House side. The conference adjourned and we will attempt to solve our differences on

Wednesday or Thursday of this week. On certain other items the House recessed and on certain other items the Senate recessed. Other items were reduced.

We mark up our District of Columbia bill tomorrow.

I am preparing a speech to be delivered on the Floor of the House concerning the budget of the District of Columbia and have been assured by my chairman of the Subcommittee that I will receive fifteen minutes from our side and Congressman John Taber of New York, a ranking Republican Member on our committee on Appropriations, assured me yesterday that since I would develop all of the facts concerning the inequities and the real estate assessment progress in the District he would be glad to give me fifteen minutes of their time. It now looks like I will have ample time to develop this subject fully on the Floor.

May 6, 1955

The Chairman of each subcommittee on the Committee on Appropriations always makes the announcement at the first day of the hearings that all matters coming before the subcommittee

are strictly confidential and that neither the Chairman nor any Member of the Committee or the assistant clerks should issue any press releases or give out any information whatsoever until the bill is marked up, finally reported and released to the press by the Chairman of the full Committee on Appropriations. This is a fine rule because this means that no outside influence or pressure can be used on the Members concerning any requests for appropriations. One of the subcommittees with only a small amount of money involved is the Subcommittee on the District of Columbia. Here for instance we only consider the appropriation of some \$174,000,000. This is almost insignificant when compared to Foreign Operations where you have several billion dollars to pass upon. Nevertheless, the amount makes no difference insofar as the District of Columbia Subcommittee is concerned because the Members receive letters, telephone calls and are constantly called upon by the press for releases during the hearings.

The first day of our hearings on the District of Columbia we received the usual admonition from our Chairman and notwithstanding the fact that each and every day we had from five to ten newspaper reporters standing in

the hallway just waiting to nab a Member for questions, we had no leaks. This applied all along throughout the hearings and on Wednesday, May 4th, we marked up our bill. Under Public Law 364 passed by the 2nd Session of the 83rd Congress the Federal contribution was increased to twenty million dollars. This was simply an authorization measure and did not mean that this amount had to be contributed each and every year. In marking up our bill we reduced the Federal contribution to \$16,000,000 and made certain other reductions which brought the bill down to \$170,000,000 from \$174,000,000. Upon leaving the Subcommittee room after the mark-up several of us noticed the newspaper reporters questioning one of the Members of the Subcommittee. In the Washington Post and Times Herald Thursday morning, May 5th, on the front page appeared an article in bold headlines entitled "House Subcommittee Cuts Four Million From Federal Payment to District." The article goes on to state that it was learned reliably after the five man Subcommittee meeting behind closed doors for four hours, that the District's \$174,000,000 spending requests was reduced over \$4,000,000. The article goes on to state that the Chairman of the Subcommittee Louis G. Rabaut, and Representative Otto E. Passman inaugurated the move to cut

the federal payment. The balance of the article, with the exception of the part played by the Chairman was correct to a word. This leak is bound to have come from one of the Members of the Subcommittee because I am positive that neither one of the executive secretaries would have released this information. For one thing we cut out a request for the construction for the new Potomac River bridge and this item together with the reduction of the federal contribution will really bring on a floor fight when our bill comes up two weeks from today.

Between now and the time our bill comes before the full Committee and then to the House, pressure of every sort will be exercised on all of the Members since the facts are known this far in advance as to our action. One of the Democratic Members on our Subcommittee accused one of the Republican Members of leaking the information and the two Republican Members on our Subcommittee accuse this particular Democrat of leaking this information.

The Senate by a vote of 75 to 13 this week passed the Reciprocal Trade Agreements bill. The Senate accepted our version and extended the 20 year

old Reciprocal Trade Program for an additional three years empowering the President to cut tariffs another 15% over that period. One change in the Senate bill departs from the original recommendations which were contained in our bill pertaining to the tightening of the escape clause procedure. The Senate changed this procedure to the extent that the Tariff Commission's findings must be published, thereby making it easier for industry to show injury from imports.

The President stated yesterday that he would study the 8.8% postal pay raise bill very carefully before deciding whether or not he would veto same. I have my doubts if we can pass this bill over his veto.

The House is in a "wait and see" attitude on the question of direct negotiations with Communist China.

Yesterday I had a right full day. At 10 a.m. I testified before the Public Works Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations requesting \$750,000 for the start of construction of the Rough River Reservoir and \$150,000 for planning money for Green, Barren and Nolin River Reservoirs. As a member of the Committee on Appropriations I testified first and then presented the other witnesses who

appeared from Kentucky and also Senators Earle C. Clements and Alben W. Barkley. The House met at 10 a.m. and we were interrupted several times by quorum and yea and nay roll calls. At 3:30 p.m. I went over on the Senate side and testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Appropriations concerning the same projects and here Senator Clements was in charge. We have great hopes of securing additional funds for the planning projects and construction money for Rough River Reservoir. In the present budget there are items amounting to over eight million dollars to my Congressional district. These items are completion of two locks and dam on Green River and canalization of Green River. We have done right well so far and if we are successful this year, our district for the first time in fifty years will receive its share of the Public Works Fund.

The bill up for consideration in the House yesterday was H. R. 12 to amend the Agriculture Act of 1949 as amended with respect to price supports for basic commodities. At the 2nd session of the 83rd Congress a bill was passed providing for flexible price supports of 82.5 - 90%. Yesterday by main force and awkwardness we finally succeeded in passing H. R. 12 fixing price supports at 90% taking

effect January 1, 1956 and throwing out flexible price supports. After recapitulation of the vote, which, by the way, was the second time that I have seen this procedure since I have been a Member, the final vote was announced as 206 to 201. We adjourned to meet at 12 o'clock Monday of next week.

Under the Five Minute Rule Speaker Rayburn took the Floor and diligently requested the Democratic Members to repudiate the Administration's farm policy which policy provides for supports ranging from 82.5 to 90% of parity for wheat, corn, cotton, rice and peanuts. Tobacco is not included because we have separate legislation fixing price supports at 90% of parity notwithstanding the fact that tobacco is one of the six basic commodities. We felt exceedingly good when the final roll call was announced but our action may turn out to be only a gesture since it is uncertain that the Senate will consider a firm bill this year and even if we pass this bill in the Senate abandoning flexible supports, President Eisenhower will exercise his veto.

Eight new cases of polio following injection with the Salk anti-polio vaccine were reported throughout the Nation yesterday by Public Health

investigations. All vaccine manufactured by the Cutter Laboratories of Berkeley, California, was being withdrawn because in some instances live polio germs were found in same. The question of whether or not legislation is necessary at the present time controlling the distribution of the Salk Vaccine was referred to the House Committee on Banking and Currency and the dean of our delegation, Brent Spence, announced that hearings would begin today.

One day last week the President announced that an atomic peace ship would sail around the world on a goodwill tour and this proposed multimillion dollar atomic peace ship may never raise anchor if some Members of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy have their say. The Members, including Representative Sterling Cole, Republican of New York, say that this mission would be a waste of money.

Yesterday the Senate passed a bill entitling former Presidents of the United States to a \$22,500 annual pension plus a staff, office space, and free mailing privileges. This bill also provides a \$10,000 pension to widows of former Presidents. Five people now would be entitled to the benefits: Herbert Hoover, Harry S.

Truman, Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, Mrs. Calvin Coolidge and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. This bill now comes to the House for consideration.

The Tobacco Referendum held in Kentucky on April 28, 1955 was endorsed 220,207 to 7,363 for a 96.8 favorable vote. The referendum was held in Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia, North Carolina, Texas and Tennessee. The total vote was 319,639 for the referendum and 13,414 against the referendum with the percentage vote for the referendum being 96%.

With all of the rush yesterday I failed to mention that the full Committee on Appropriations met for the consideration of the Armed Services Appropriation bill. Our Committee favorably reported a bill providing for \$31,488,206,000 for support of the Armed Forces during the fiscal year beginning July 1st. This is \$744,609,000 under the President's request. This bill calls for cutting military strength to 2,859,000 by June 30, 1956. The Army will go down from 1,404,600 to 1,027,000. The Navy and Marines will absorb smaller reductions and the Air Force will expand.

May 7, 1955

For the past fifty-nine days employees of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company have been on strike, and conditions down through the fourteen states served by this railroad are quite serious. Several trains have been wrecked, bridges burned and gun play resulting in the death of one railroad union employee. The President has refused to intercede, maintaining that the Mediation Board should solve this matter, and one day this past week it looked very much like a settlement was in sight. Several hours before the Board was to meet with officials of the railroad and union the railroad employee was found dead alongside the L&N track. This prevented a settlement and the strike continues on.

The State Administration in Kentucky is backing Judge Bert Combs of the Court of Appeals in his race for Democratic nominee for Governor. Judge Combs practiced law in Prestonsburg before his election to the Court of Appeals, and is a native son of Manchester, Kentucky. A. B. "Happy" Chandler is the anti-Administration candidate, and for well over a year now Happy has been campaigning over Kentucky. A former State Senator, Lt. Governor, Governor, United States

Senator and Baseball Commissioner, and one of the best campaigners that we have had in Kentucky during the Twentieth Century. So far this race has not warmed up too much. If the primary should be an ugly one, such as the Donaldson-Kilgore-Myers Primary, the Republicans might have a chance to elect their candidate, Ed Denny, who resigned as District Attorney of the Eastern Federal District to make this race. Senator Alben W. Barkley issued a press release last week stating that he would take no part in the Democratic Gubernatorial Primary in Kentucky, and this simply was carrying out his practice over the past forty years. He did say that he would campaign for the Democratic nominee in the November election. This action from the Senator certainly did not meet with the approval of the present Administration in Kentucky because many, many thousands of dollars were raised by the Administration and much work was done in Barkley's last race in November of 1954 against John Sherman Cooper. Regardless of how the Administration, or anyone feels, Barkley has made his decision and same is final. Some of my best friends are for Happy Chandler, and I have just as many good friends on the side of Bert Combs.

Tonight I attend the Gridiron

Dinner with Robert L. Riggs of the Louisville, Kentucky, Courier-Journal.

Next week we take up in the House H. R. 1806, a bill to consolidate the Roosevelt Memorial Association; H. R. 1825, a bill providing for auditorium construction, H. R. 2986, a bill to adjust Judges salaries; H. R. 4909, a bill providing for consolidation of related tax matters; H. R. 2535, a bill providing for Statehood for Alaska and Hawaii; H. R. 6042, our Department of Defense Appropriation bill for 1956; H. R. 5297, a bill pertaining to the National Reserve Plan, and known as the Manpower bill; H. R. 2126, Saline Water Act, a bill pertaining to the Saline Water Act of 1952.

Under general debate on H. R. 2535, proposing Statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, we will hear much for and against admission. This is one of the more important pieces of legislation to come before the House this Session. I can see more reason for admission of Alaska than Hawaii, but Hawaii is Republican and the Republicans in the Congress of the United States will not agree to the admission of Alaska without Hawaii, and with Alaska being Democratic, naturally the Democrats in the Congress are expecting as their

just due two Democratic Senators and at least one Democratic Congressman from Alaska.

May 9, 1955

The Baltimore Orioles and the Washington Senators played a double header yesterday with the score being 4 - 3 in favor of the Baltimore Orioles for the first game and 15 - 7 Washington in the second game. Louise and I attended and I enjoyed both games and Louise seemed to enjoy both games together with some two hot dogs, two bags of popcorn, two cokes, etc..

On Saturday night of last week I attended the annual dinner of the Gridiron Club which was held at the Statler Hotel. This was the 70th anniversary. I certainly enjoyed this banquet and especially the Gridiron Club program. The dinner bell rang at 7 p.m. and at 7:15 President Eisenhower entered the room. The lights were turned out and with low music we had a very vigorous speech concerning the program which was to follow. The Gridiron program of course consists of panning those in high public office in a nice way. The Marine Band was present and we had speeches from President Eisenhower, Governor Harriman of New York and

Governor Knight of California. In between we had a delicious dinner and press skits of every description. Some fifty newspaper men sang, danced and mimicked members of the Cabinet, Presidential aspirants, Members of the Senate and House of Representatives. There were 500 in attendance with a huge speakers' table and twelve smaller tables connected to same from one end of the room to the other. At the speakers' table we had the President and Members of the Supreme Court, nearly all of the Ambassadors from the foreign countries, Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House, a great many of the Governors, the Reverend Hesberg, President of Notre Dame, James A. Farley, General Marshall, Admiral Leahy, our Ambassadors to the United Nations, the Vice President of the United States, Richard Nixon, the owners of all of the large newspapers throughout the United States, Admiral Radford, all of the members of the President's Cabinet, General Bedell Smith, Admiral Carney and a great many other distinguished guests. I was seated at the Speakers' Table and have never enjoyed myself more.

The show opened at the White House portico where the colored doorman was announcing stag members for a Presidential dinner and when he came to the President of the Peoples' Gas and

Electric Company, he suddenly exclaimed "People, nobody represents the people that comes to these dinners." The song, "When the Saints Come Marching In" was used. Next we had the White House Press Secretary complaining about the squirrels on the White House lawn, "That's All I Want From You." With the tune "Tweedledee" Senator Knowland was hoping that the President would move to Gettysburg. Senator Kefauver next appeared with the coon-skin cap and gun singing "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered, and Still Trying to Be President." Next we had Averill Harriman with his Tammany Chief both dressed as Indians throwing the money all over the stage with the tune "Davey Crockett" used. Several other skits were used and the dinner was over at 12 o'clock.

This morning's Washington Post carried an article on the front page giving Representative William H. Natcher, Democrat of Kentucky, full credit for making the suggestion that a complete new reassessment of all real estate be made at once in the District of Columbia. The printed copy of our hearings of the House Appropriations Subcommittee handling the District budget was released today and the information contained in this article was secured therefrom. The article goes on to state that the

Commissioners and the Assessor admitted that in a great many areas in the District of Columbia there has been no reassessment program for a period of approximately thirty years and further that in a great many instances some property is overassessed and other property is under-assessed. The article further states that before the Hearings ended Natcher got Commissioner Samuel Spencer, President of the Board of Commissioners for the District of Columbia, to agree that ten years was too long to wait for a reassessment of the real estate in the District. In conclusion the article stated that reassessment was the first and last subject discussed during the entire hearings and it kept cropping up periodically all the way through.

Since appearing before the Public Works Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations in the House and the Senate Appropriations Committee, I have been informed that we have a good chance to include our Rough River Reservoir project.

We accepted the Conference Report on the Postal Pay Increase bill today and I presume that this 8.8% increase will be vetoed by the President.

We passed three bills pertaining to the District of Columbia and next

we took up the rule for H. R. 2535, the bill providing statehood for Alaska and Hawaii. The rule was adopted and same provides for seven hours of general debate. When we adjourn today we will convene tomorrow morning at 10 a.m. for further consideration of this Statehood bill.

During the past year and a half I have received hundreds of letters and calls concerning the Statehood bill. At the time the rule was up for consideration today I was somewhat amused to find that Bob Bartlett, the delegate from Alaska and Mrs. Joseph Farrington, the delegate from Hawaii, were both temporarily off the Floor. These two members have worked day and night for months and months for this particular bill.

Under the rules of the House a Member cannot make a statement in which he points out the Members on the opposite side by saying "you are attempting to destroy such and such a bill." Under the rules of the House the word "you" in this particular instance is a violation. During the general debate on H. R. 12, the bill providing for fixed price supports at 90% of parity, Congressman Poage, Democrat of Texas, on four occasions used the word "you" as mentioned above and point of order was sustained promptly

on each occasion. Poage then shouted "All right, but I want you all to know you all are trying to destroy the peanut farmer." This "you all" is not a violation of the rules of the House.

On Wednesday of last week at the time the Reciprocal Trade Agreements bill was up for consideration in the Senate, Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky inquired as to whether or not Senator Douglas, Democrat of Illinois would yield to him for a question, and Senator Douglas very graciously replied "I am willing to yield to the First Member of the United States Senate." Senator Barkley immediately stated that he didn't go quite back that far.

May 10, 1955

From January 5th through April 30th the Senate has been in session 49 days and the House 56 days. The Senate has consumed 2570 pages of the Congressional Record and the House has consumed 1898 pages. We have passed 245 senate bills and 248 House bills during this period. 2047 bills were introduced in the Senate and 6,572 bills in the House during this period. The Senate confirmed 409 postmaster nominations out of 947 presented. During this period of time 24,848 nominations were received

by the Senate for postmaster nominations, Army nominations, Air Force nominations, Navy nominations, Marine Corps nominations and civilian nominations other than postmaster and 21,799 of same were confirmed. We are well along with our appropriation bills. During this period of time H. R. 2091 designated as the "Urgent Deficiency 1955 Supplemental bill" was passed appropriating \$1,013,950. H. J. Res. 252 Deficiency Supplemental bill for the Justice Department for 1955 passed appropriating \$710,000. H. R. 4903 the Second Supplemental bill for 1955 was passed appropriating \$945,412,835. H. R. 4876, the regular Treasury and Post Office bill for 1956 passed appropriating \$3,358,622,000. H. R. 5046, the regular Labor-H.E.W. Appropriation bill for 1956 passed, appropriating \$2,337,522,261. H. R. 5085, the regular Interior Appropriations bill passed, appropriating \$297,925,546. H. R. 5239, the regular Agriculture Appropriation bill passed appropriating \$880,260,050. This bill is now in conference and I am serving as one of the House Conferees. H. R. 5240, the regular Independent Offices bill passed appropriating \$5,845,595,375. H. R. 5502, the regular State, Justice, Judiciary Appropriation bill, passed appropriating \$450,398,227.

May 11, 1955

Yesterday the House completed general debate on H. R. 2535, a bill to enable the people of Hawaii and Alaska to form a constitution and State of Government. I voted to recommit this bill. The vote was 218 to 170 for recommitment. This means the bill goes back to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs where it will remain for sometime to come. If we had admitted Alaska and Hawaii some 610,000 new citizens would have had four United States Senators. This would have meant that each Senator represented less than 200,000 people. Each United States Senator today represents over one and a half million people. Financially Hawaii and Alaska would have been too great to carry at the present time and I certainly am not in favor of permitting Communists from Hawaii to come and go in this country as they please. A lot of people in this country still believe that Alaska is contiguous to the border of the United States, overlooking the fact that we have to cross a right nice strip of Canadian land before we reach Alaska. The Pacific Ocean connects Hawaii with the mainland of this country and to me this certainly is not contiguous.

This morning I found a Washington Post and Times Herald newspaper on my

front porch. I take the Evening Star which I believe to be the better paper. In glancing through the copy, I find a very potent editorial marked "Obsolete Assessments." The editorial goes on to state that we have obsolete real property assessment in the District of Columbia and that our Subcommittee had a good point in saying that from five to ten years is too long a time to wait for the desired adjustment. The editorial admitted that the real property assessments were obsolete and that actions should be taken immediately to correct this matter. However, the editorial stated that Congress in the past had failed to provide the necessary number of Assistant Assessors to take care of this job.

To me the last portion of this editorial is quite amusing when the Tax Assessor, in answer to questions propounded by me, stated that it would take ten years and that notwithstanding the fact that the District of Columbia had authorization at the present time for ten Assistant Assessors they only had eight on the payroll. He maintained that he could not find two men to suit him. They now come in and ask us for three more Assistant Assessors, making the total 13. If we grant the 13, I am just wondering how many he will actually put on the payroll and what will happen to the money authorized for the additional Assessors. This District

Government has the bad habit of transferring funds without authorization; funds of the Congress from one Department to the other and the transfer ends up as a salary increase down the line for a group of favored employees.

According to an article in one of the Washington papers this past week, the First Congress of the United States had no Senators over 65 years of age and no Representatives over 70 years of age. The average age of the Senators for the First Congress was 50 and of the House Members 46. Today the age of the Senators average 56 and the House Members 51. I have my doubts that this is a good sign.

By a unanimous vote the Senate passed the bill for a \$22,500 pension for ex-Presidents this week.

Swaps won the Derby last Saturday, much to the chagrin of the favored Nashua and his backers.

To me the hardest thing for Americans to do today is to be patient and to learn to live with their troubles as the rest of the world has learned to do. We should buy more time in these dangerous times and make good use of it.

We started on H. R. 6042 today,

the bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956. This bill has \$31,488,000,000 of new contracting authority money and is the result of weeks of hearings which compiled a record of 5100 pages. The report accompanying this bill contains 61 typewritten pages. With this amount being nearly one-half of our total budget for the fiscal year 1956, you would think that at least one-half of the Members would be on the Floor during general debate of this particular bill. One quorum call was necessary and immediately after answering the roll most of the Members left and according to my own count 61 Members were present on the Floor throughout most of the debate. One of the important items that was discussed during general debate was excessive profits made by some of the contractors dealing with our Defense Department for new weapons and supplies. In some instances profits realized were simply outrageous.

May 13, 1955

We completed H. R. 6042, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956, yesterday after several amendments were voted down. One amendment would have prevented the expenditure of any part of the

\$31,480,000,000 for construction of ships in Government owned Navy Yards.

At ten o'clock this morning we present our District of Columbia Appropriations bill for 1956 to the full Committee on Appropriations. This bill will then go to the Floor for action on Wednesday of next week.

May 16, 1955

The Big Four foreign ministers met yesterday in Vienna, Austria, and signed the Austrian Treaty granting freedom to Austria. The Big Four consist of England, France, United States and Russia. In driving down to my office this morning, I heard a news report over the radio that celebrations had continued all night in Austria and were still going on.

Molotov promised at a dinner meeting with the Big Four ministers in Austria that the Soviet Union would join in a Big Four Power Conference at the topmost level in an effort to reach an East-West settlement. President Eisenhower has indicated now that he will attend such a conference if the time and place can be agreed upon.

The Washington papers are really up in arms over the four million dollar Federal contribution cut in the District

budget. Articles have appeared on the front pages of the Evening Star, Washington Post and Times Herald and the Washington Daily News giving my subcommittee the very devil for its action. Those weak-kneed members of the House who intend to seek publicity by fighting our bill on the Floor will find that this particular bill will pass in its present form and passage of same will then be a mandate for no changes when the Senate magnanimously places all or part of the Federal contribution back in the bill. The House conferees will be in a position of simply saying that no agreement can be had restoring any part of the four million contribution cut because this matter was vigorously contested at the time of passage of the District of Columbia Appropriations bill for fiscal year 1956 and the Committee action was ratified by passage of the bill. It seems to me that it would be better to have no fight in the House, hoping that the Senate would restore the cut and that the conference of the House and Senate managers would be successful. An editorial appeared in yesterday's Sunday Star which stated that it was easy to become angry at the seemingly cavalier treatment of the District of Columbia by the House Appropriations Committee and that the subcommittees charge of fiscal irresponsibility lodged against the District

of Columbia Commissioners is not only extravagant and unwarranted but is derived from conditions which Congress itself has created. This editorial goes on and on with its spanking and then ends up by stating that the problem boils down to a failure of communication between those who present the District side and the Members of the subcommittee and that nothing is to be gained now by berating the Committee. This is somewhat amusing when you read the berating part of the editorial.

This past week has seen the Salk Vaccine situation thoroughly discussed as to whether or not the present vaccine in use is safe. After the announcement was made and ratified by the National health authorities concerning the success of the Salk Anti-Polio Vaccine, thousands upon thousands of children throughout this country and in several foreign countries began receiving vaccinations. Within a few days some seventy cases of polio resulted from children recently vaccinated. They traced the defective vaccine to Cutter Laboratories in California and later other laboratories turned up with live polio virus in the vaccine. The House Committee on Banking and Currency and one of the subcommittees of the Judiciary Committee

in the Senate have been holding hearings all week concerning this matter. Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, was severely criticized this week for failing to respond to an invitation to appear before the House Committee. Dr. Scheele, Director of the National Institute of Health, has appeared and assures the people that the Salk Vaccine is now safe and is successful against polio.

The failure of the House to pass the Hawaii - Alaska Statehood bill received much publicity during the past week. I voted against this bill because in my opinion present conditions do not justify the admission of two territories as states who cannot carry themselves financially. Our national debt, amounting to \$283 billion should be considered. A public works program in Alaska and Hawaii amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars would certainly not be to our advantage at the present time. Arizona, Nevada and several other of the western states with state population of less than 500,000 with two United States Senators are still being criticized. The two United States Senators of New York State represent nearly twenty million people.

It now appears that the Soviet strategy veers toward peace. Happiness

and good fellowship started bursting out all over since Malenkov's dismissal and continues down to the present day. I am wondering just where we go from here.

H. R. 2126, a bill to amend the Act of July 3, 1952, relating to research in the development and utilization of saline water was up for consideration in the House today. The Act of 1952 known as the Saline Water Act authorized the appropriation of \$2,000,000 to carry on a five year research program with the objective of developing an economically feasible process for converting sea water and other saline waters to fresh water of a quality suitable for agricultural, industrial, municipal and other beneficial uses. This bill passed without any difficulty and the basic act is now modified by extending the period of research until the year 1963 and authorizing an additional appropriation of not exceeding \$6,000,000 for further research and development of the conversion of said waters and other saline waters to fresh water. Accomplishment of this research project will be of great benefit to this country.

For a number of years candidates from the 2nd Congressional District of Kentucky to West Point and Annapolis have been unable to pass the mental

examinations. At the present time there are four vacancies from my district at West Point and four vacancies at Annapolis. All of the candidates nominated last year failed for both West Point and Annapolis and this has been the procedure for a period of approximately ten years. It certainly does not speak too well for our high schools. This year two of my candidates passed the examinations for entrance to the Naval Academy and two passed entrance examinations for West Point. The new Air Force Academy to be opened in Denver, Colorado, under legislation passed by us at the 2nd Session of the 83rd Congress, has today released the names of the five successful candidates for the first class. In Kentucky each Member of the House and each Senator were authorized to submit ten names and the 100 candidates met in Louisville for physical and mental examinations. Kentucky's quota for the first class, according to the population of the state, was five. This simply meant that it was possible to make a score of 99 and still not be one of the successful five. Out of the five successful candidates one came from my Congressional District and his name is James R. Blackwell, of Providence, Kentucky. This young man had no political backing at all and simply wrote me a nice letter setting forth

his qualifications and his desire to take the physical and mental examinations for entrance at the new Air Force Academy. I sent in his name together with nine other candidates and two of my other candidates passed the physical and mental examinations and are on the alternate list. Senator Clements had two of the top five, Congressman Chelf - one, Congressman Robison - one, and I had the other candidate. For the five alternates Congressman Spence had one, Congressman Watts - one, I had two and Senator Clements - one. Several of the names that I sent in were sponsored quite vigorously in their home counties and I felt right good over the Blackwell boy because he had no political strength or sponsorship at all. A nice letter, well written, denoted his intentions and it just so happens that he has the proper qualifications to pass a very difficult examination.

May 17, 1955

Today we take up for consideration H. R. 5297, the bill providing for a National Reserve Plan. This particular bill was finally voted out of the Armed Services Committee by a vote of 31-5 after many weeks of hearings. Under the provisions of this bill, which provide mainly for 17 and 18 year olds voluntary service of six months plus

7½ years of reserve, is provided for. Several weeks ago we continued our present Draft law for four additional years and under this bill induction means 24 months. Notwithstanding the fact that this bill carries no compulsory military training features which have long been advocated by President Eisenhower, we expect a lively debate before final roll call. The sponsors of this bill in the House and in the Pentagon are of the opinion that we will be assured of a ready, trained, reserve of adequate size and effectiveness in case of emergency.

The fight to repeal the 1954 Sliding Scale Farm law moved into the Senate this week following last week's victory in the House of 206-201. Senator Humphrey of Minnesota has only recently directed a letter to Democratic Majority Leader Johnson informing him that the promises made by the Democrats last Fall should now be carried out. In fact, Senator Humphrey cited one of Senator Johnson's speeches in Minnesota in which the good Senator reaffirmed the pledge of the Democratic Party to make revision of the Eisenhower Farm Law a priority goal during the first session of the 84th Congress.

The farm situation is certainly no better and according to recent

reports the income of the American farmer may probably be off some \$12 billion at the close of the calendar year 1955.

The National Farmers Union is rapidly overtaking the American Farm Bureau. Here we have the National Farmers Union endorsing fixed price supports of 90% of parity and American Farm Bureau endorsing the present Administration's flexible price supports. The American Farm Bureau is also opposed to a raise in the minimum wage from the 75¢ level. The National Farmers Union has urged Congress to raise the minimum wage from 75¢ per hour to \$1.25 per hour and to extend coverage to six and one-half million additional workers. The Minimum Wage Law bill will certainly be a hot potato during the present session with salary increases to the Members of Congress, postal workers, certified employees and probably an increase in retirement benefits for all former Government employees. A vote against increasing the Minimum Wage Law will bring forth an immediate roar.

May 19, 1955

Yesterday we gave further consideration to the bill, H. R. 5297, which provides for the strengthening of the reserve forces and for other purposes.

Under this bill, which by the way is voluntary, a young man may volunteer and enter the Armed Service for a period of six months and upon his discharge serve 7½ years in the Reserve, making a total of 8 years service. If he does not voluntarily enlist for six months service, he will be inducted under the present Draft law, which we extended for four years several weeks ago, and upon completion of 24 months service will serve three years in the active reserve and three years in the standby reserve making a total of eight years. A great number of amendments were offered on the Floor and most of same were attempting to reduce the Reserve period down to four years, which would make this law expire with our present Induction Law. Under the Five Minute Rule and while the bill was being read, Congressman John Robsion, Jr. of Kentucky, moved to strike the last word thereby being authorized to speak for five minutes. He stated that he could not understand why there was so much opposition to this particular bill and he for one would support same unequivocally. He further stated that he was 38 years old when he enlisted for service in World War II and served nearly four years. As the result of this service he said that he lost his business, his home and his wife. Then with a big grin, he stated

that it wasn't so bad after all because after the war was over he gained back his business, purchased another home and had a whole lot better wife than the first one. We all just howled and John McCormack turned around to me and in a very loud whisper asked if all the Kentucky Members had the same experience in the war. I whispered back just as loud that Robsion's wife was probably glad World War II took place. In checking the Congressional Record today I find Robsion's statement, which in part is as follows:

"...Mr. Chairman, the opponents of this legislation have told us how terrible it is that the young boys cannot plan for their future so long as the possibility of the draft and the Reserve service hangs over their heads. If you will pardon me, my heart refuses to bleed. I was 38 years old when World War II came along. I did not question whether or not the President was right or whether our foreign policy was right. My country was in danger, and I volunteered for service and served four years, two of them overseas. As the result I lost my business; I lost my home; and I lost my wife. But I did not lose my life like many others did. Before you start feeling sorry for me, may I say that I got a better business, a better home,

and a better wife, and above all I have my self respect for having discharged my obligation to my country in time of need. And, I will say something else: my father was in Congress at the time, and I experienced a lot of very unhappy situations in the Army, but not one single time did I ask Daddy to speak to the mean old War Department about the way they were treating his sonny boy." ...

Congressman Adam Powell, one of our three colored Representatives, offered an amendment. His amendment provided that there should be no segregation insofar as our National Guard is concerned. I voted against this amendment and much to my surprise same passed by a voice vote of 126 to 87. Powell married Hazel Scott and as I have heretofore written, preaches in the largest Baptist church in Harlem, New York, on Sunday, and operates a very risque night club during the week. For several months at a time we never see him on the Floor and after he creates an uproar he is conspicuously absent for several weeks. In speaking for his amendment he stated in part as follows:

"The issue here in America and throughout the world is the black and the brown and the white and the yellow

men marching together on an integrated basis. I was able to say what I did say to the Communists in Bandung because we had an integrated Army and because we have an integrated Capitol here in this democracy. I could not have said that if we had a Jim Crow Army or if Washington was a Jim Crow city, which it was until a year ago."

"Do you want to turn back the timetable of the forward march of democracy?"

"We have been very slow and laggard in this body. The things that we have done in America have been due to our Supreme Court and to our President, Mr. Eisenhower, and before him Mr. Truman, and before him, Mr. Roosevelt. They are the two branches - the Judicial and the Executive -- that have given the impetus and leadership to the onward surge of democracy. We, the Congress, have been backward. Now here is an opportunity for us to stand up and take our place in the forward march." ...

"I tell you that if you do not accept this amendment, you will be playing directly into the hands of Communist propagandists. I know that it is a hard question for many of you Members who come from certain areas to adopt this amendment."

Before too many days expire, my subcommittee on Foreign Aid will begin hearing witnesses. The President is requesting \$3,500,000,000 and according to investigation recently made, the Foreign Aid Program still has control of over \$10 billion. Last year we appropriated \$2,800,000,000 not knowing that there was nearly four times this amount unspent and unencumbered. We will have quite a session over the unspent money. Secretary Dulles now states that by June 1 of this year there will be only \$500 million unencumbered.

On Monday of this week the Committee, on the part of the House and Senate, agreed in conference and our Agricultural Appropriation bill committee report was adopted by the House without any trouble. The bill now provides for \$696,917,855 in direct cash appropriations and \$388,000,000 in lending authority.

The House of Representatives is overrun with Cupids. They spend more time promoting romance than international goodwill. My good friend Noble J. Gregory of the 1st Congressional District of Kentucky and Porter Hardy, Jr., of Virginia are two of the chief offenders.

"If a married member becomes a

widow or widower, the Cupids become even busier. They do everything except concoct love potions.

I have never been able to understand why our elected Representatives are so dead set against any of their number enjoying single blessedness. They seem to take it as a personal affront if the single ones resist the unsubtle matchmaking.

Right now the Cupids are practically dislocating their wings trying to promote a romance between a bachelor legislator from Tennessee and a widowed gentlewoman from West Virginia.

They have been working on the Tennessean, 60 year old Rep. Tom Murray, to the point where he isn't sure any longer where the kidding ends and seriousness begins. They've been doing the same to Rep. Elizabeth Kee, whose late husband, John Kee, represented West Virginia's Fifth District before her.

Mrs. Kee tries to laugh it off, but every time she has a flower on her dress or on her desk one of the Cupids rushes around telling everybody it came from Representative Murray.

And when Murray makes a speech on the Floor of the House, the Cupids

always accuse Mrs. Kee of leading the applause.

There are only two singletons in Congress who have won immunity from the matchmaking - Speaker Sam Rayburn and Minority Leader Joe Martin. The Cupids worked on them for years but finally just plumb gave up."

May 20, 1955

The House refused the Military Reserve Program bill yesterday and a motion that the Committee rise was sustained. When Congressman Adam Powell of New York, one of the three Negro members of the House, proposed the Civil Rights amendment on Wednesday, which in effect would mean that the National Guard in all of the States would be mixed, I knew that the bill would never pass. Since I have been a Member of the House, I have never seen as many mad Representatives as I saw yesterday. Notice was served on Representative Carl Vincent of Georgia, the Chairman of the Armed Services Committee, that unless this bill was sent back to Committee, it would be defeated. By a vote of 161 - 124 the motion that the Committee rise was sustained.

President Eisenhower vetoed the

8.8% Postal Pay Increase bill yesterday. This veto came as no surprise to me because when we passed this bill in the House the Republican leadership stated unequivocally that this bill would be vetoed. In vetoing this bill, the President stated in part as follows:

"I return herewith, without my approval, A.1 'To increase the rates of basic compensation of officers and employes in the field service of the Post Office Department.' I take this action for three reasons. First, the bill creates new discriminations or inequities which would affect many thousands of postal employes. Second, the bill creates grave administrative problems such as the establishment of thousands of individual pay rates. It forces awkward and unfair administrative practices in a Government department whose operations affect every person, every enterprise, every community in the country. Third, the bill imposes a heavier burden upon the taxpayer than is necessary to establish salary rates throughout the department which will compare favorably with rates for similar work elsewhere in Government and in private industry."

The Senate is now making arrangements to attempt to pass this bill over the President's veto, and this

move to override is set for Tuesday of next week. I believe that we have sufficient votes in the House to override the veto but have my doubts about the Senate.

Since the Military Reserve Plan bill failed, the Speaker called up the District of Columbia Appropriations bill and our subcommittee took over. The House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill H. R. 6239. By agreement the time was fixed at 2½ hours for general debate. My Chairman Mr. Rabaut, took the Floor and explained the bill up to the point when a question was propounded which simply caused my Chairman to lose his head. He then proceeded to get mad and consumed nearly all the time on our side. The Republicans were nice to us and yielded 25 minutes of their time. Of course we realized that the only amendment of any consequence to be proposed would be the one attempting to restore the \$4,000,000 Federal contribution cut. Public Law 364, passed last year, provided that the Federal contribution should not exceed \$20 million but automatically had to be \$20 million. In setting up the budget for the District of Columbia our subcommittee unanimously placed the Federal contribution at \$16,000,000.

For days the Washington papers have written editorials and have had the papers full of criticism of the subcommittee. According to one editorial the Members composing the subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations were men of little vision. This naturally had all of us in the right frame of mind when we took the Floor. I spoke for 24 minutes and made the best speech that I have made since I have been a Member of Congress. Mr. Rayburn, Mr. McCormack, and my Chairman of the full Committee on Appropriations, Mr. Cannon of Missouri, were all very complimentary. We did not realize that half so much campaigning had taken place during the past few days to restore this cut until the amendment was proposed by Congressman Smith of Virginia. By a vote of 86 to 85 the House defeated the attempt to restore the \$4,000,000 cut. This vote was so close we then realized that a quorum should definitely be established and succeeded finally in obtaining a call of the House. When a call was demanded by our opponents, we simply used the old parliamentary trick of making a motion that the Committee do now rise and demand tellers. This motion superseded the motion for the Call of the House and when we decided it was necessary to have the Membership on the Floor to

save our Bill, we succeeded in having a Call of the House. When the 365 Members appeared, we defeated all other amendments and passed our Bill without a dissenting vote. My speech appears on pages 5673-76 of the Congressional Record of May 19th. The papers so far today have eliminated the criticism directed toward the subcommittee, but before we go into conference with the Senate on this Bill, I presume that more will be said about the Members of this particular subcommittee in the press.

The Senate approved yesterday, by a vote of 76-3 a proposed Constitutional amendment setting up machinery for a quick replacement of House Members in case legislators are wiped out in a nuclear bomb attack. Since Governors already have the power to fill Senate vacancies, the amendment applies only to the House. This measure needs ratification by 3/4 of the States within seven years.

May 21, 1955

Prior to general debate on H. R. 6239, the bill making appropriations for the District of Columbia, I talked with several Members of the Virginia Delegation concerning the District's attitude in regard to the Federal contribution. The newspapers in the

District, especially, believe that it is mandatory that the Congress of the United States forget all about the money that is made in the District - for instance \$250,000,000 from tourists - and pass the necessary laws which almost completely relieve the residents of the District of taxation. My next door neighbor, Edward J. Robeson, Jr., serving his fourth term, from Warwick, grumbles all the time about everything. He prides himself on his conservatism, and is one of the few individuals that I have met during my life who would complain about Heaven. This man if admitted would within ten minutes start complaining about something that he did not like in Heaven. When he was informed that our subcommittee had reduced the Federal contribution from \$20,000,000 to \$16,000,000 he stated that this was one of the finest moves that he had ever witnessed. This sentiment was also echoed by Pat Jennings from Marion, Virginia, serving his first term, who also prides himself on his conservatism. J. Vaughn Gary, of Richmond, Virginia, serving his sixth term, is a Member of the Committee on Appropriations, and, he too, prides himself on his conservatism. In passing, Vaughn Gary failed to vote when the heat was on in R. R. 6239. At the close of general debate, and when Howard W. Smith, serving his thirteenth term, from Broad Run, Virginia, the leading advocate

of conservatism from the Virginia Delegation, proposed his amendment restoring the \$4,000,000, you should have seen Jennings, Robeson, Porter Hardy, Watkins M. Abbitt, William M. Tuck, former Governor, and Burr Harrison line up and follow Judge Smith up the center aisle past the tellers. I often wonder just what would happen to the Members of the Democratic Delegation from Virginia if Howard W. Smith should be ill and unable to attend sessions on the floor, and be too ill to pass along the word to the other boys. This same situation holds true in the United States Senate. It is openly talked about by the Senators that when the Clerk calls the roll on a vote in the Senate as soon as the name Harry Flood Byrd is called, and the good Senator indicates how he wants his vote recorded, the Clerk before calling another name moves his hand down the list and marks Senator A. Willis Robertson, of Lexington, Virginia, in the same column. Of course, this action does not take place, but when Senator Byrd is not on the floor to vote Robertson runs up and down the aisle, and through the cloak rooms, like a bird dog looking for his master.

The local papers are now carrying press releases to the effect that it is a foregone conclusion that the \$4,000,000 will be restored when H. R. 6239 reaches the Senate. This may be whistling in the dark because it just so happens that the Members of my subcommittee will be the House Conferees. The Washington newspapers state that there is now a compelling challenge to District groups, both official and private, to see to it that the Senate fully understands the seriousness of the city's own efforts to help itself. I am still amused at the Federal contribution. The tax assessor informed Congressman Passman that he could give him the tax list for real estate of any individual, corporation or partnership, but that before he would release the assessment of the real estate owned by the three newspapers - the Evening Star, Washington Post and Times Herald, and the Daily News - a court order would first have to be obtained. Passman maintained up to the very end that he would have this matter corrected, but failed to do so. The tax rate in the District is \$22 per thousand, and in Boston, Massachusetts, it is \$68.40 per thousand. This comparison is general throughout the United States. Here there is a \$4,000 income tax exemption for each individual, which is clearly outrageous.

May 23, 1955

Yesterday's Washington Post had a front-page article in bold headlines pointing out a budget error which leaves the District of Columbia with a deficit of \$1,703,000. According to this article the subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations made the mistake and the House passed the Bill with the deficit which at the very least will amount to \$685,809. The article goes on to state that the members of the subcommittee are new members on this particular subcommittee and the clerks are new also. The fallacy of this article is that in my speech I stated that the budget would be out of balance between 5 or 6 million dollars before the end of the fiscal year 1956. In taking all of the surplus out of the budget, we overestimated the surplus according to the Washington Post. The budget will be in balance the first day of the fiscal year for 1956 and was passed in balance, but same will be out of balance several million dollars more than the article stated unless the District of Columbia marches to the front and assumes its share of the fiscal burdens of the District. We intentionally prepared the budget in such a manner as to place more responsibility on the District because the Congress of the United States is tired of constantly

pouring millions of dollars into the District by way of Federal contribution when the District will not bear its share of the tax burden. The other Washington paper, the Evening Star, had an article concerning the District of Columbia budget and after criticizing Representative Rabaut and Representative Passman, just for a change the article contained a nice statement concerning my speech. In substance the article stated that a more balanced criticism of affairs in the District came from Representative Natcher, Democrat of Kentucky, also a member of Mr. Rabaut's subcommittee, and went on to cite certain figures which I used in my speech proving the fact that real property was underassessed in the District of Columbia.

It seems that Soviet Russia denies our sincerity on the Big Four Conference. The official publication of the Soviet, Pravda, charged that we were indulging in endless talk and making unrelated demands on the Soviet concerning the projected top level Big Four Conferences.

On May 21st, Lt. John Conroy of the Air Force completed the first sunrise to sunset round trip coast to coast flight in the United States. He had breakfast in Los Angeles, lunch in New York, and dinner in Los Angeles.

We were warned by Senator George of Georgia this past week that the United States should not give up European air bases or reduce its military strength in Europe despite any bold move by Russia to erect a neutral zone between East and West. I definitely am of the opinion that Russia hopes to decrease our military strength in Europe at the proposed Big Four Conference and I certainly agree with Senator George that none of our air bases should be relinquished at this time. Russia will probably come forth with a new disarmament proposal and also probably will suggest the creation of a neutral zone between East and West.

One of the important questions before the Congress of the United States today is the question of who has the greatest air power -- the Soviet or the United States. The Pentagon recently informed the Congress that Russia is further advanced in jet plane construction than had been thought. The Russians' long range jet powered bombers are now in operating units. Our B-52s will not be out until this summer. In 1947 and 1948 Russia purchased approximately 50 jet - Rolls Royce engines from England and by concentrating on jet production has increased the power of Rolls Royce engines to the extent that they probably lead the world today in jet powered planes.

May 24, 1955

The Senate passed S 1805, a Bill to amend the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, to provide for more effective evaluation of the fiscal requirements of the executive agencies of the Government of the United States. The primary purpose of this Bill is to provide the Congress with the necessary machinery to enable it to meet its constitutional responsibilities in connection with the appropriation of funds required for the conduct of the Federal Government. Under this Bill a joint committee on the budget, composed of members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees was established to assist the Congress in exercising adequate control over the expenditure of public funds by the Executive Branch of the Government. For a great number of years, Congress has labored under a tremendous disadvantage in connection with budget requests and justifications. The witnesses who appear before the Appropriations Committees represent exclusively the Executive Branch of Government and its views. It is their duty to support all budget items contained in the President's budget. Committee Members are so heavily burdened by other legislative duties and responsibilities that they are unable personally to give adequate attention to each budget item. Under this Bill the joint committee, or any subcommittee

thereof, is vested with power to hold hearings, issue subpoenas, and to make such expenditures as are necessary to carry out its functions within the amount appropriated for same. This Bill further provides for the appointment of a staff director, an assistant staff director, and such other professional, technical, and clerical employees as may be necessary to carry out the duties of the joint committee. To me this is one of the most important pieces of legislation that has been presented to the Congress of the United States since I have been a Member, and should receive the support of the Membership.

Yesterday the District Commissioners appeared before a subcommittee of the Legislative Committee on the District of Columbia and submitted plans to raise \$8,875,000 a year for expected pay increases and other new city costs. The plan also includes a 2 million dollar boost in the Federal contribution. If adopted, the Federal contribution would be \$22 million dollars. The Commissioners also submitted a plan to drop the \$4,000 income tax exemption down to \$1,000 for a single person and \$2,000 for a married person. The plan includes an increase by raising the general sales tax from 2 to 3% and to boost the real estate rate a nickel, making the rate \$2.25 per \$100 assessed

valuation. A raise in the beer tax from \$1.25 to \$3.00 a barrel and a wine tax of 20¢ a gallon was also submitted. After our skirmish on the Floor with the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill, the Commissioners have finally decided to act. In my speech I proposed that the \$4,000 income tax exemption be lowered and that the real estate be properly reassessed. The proposal increasing the Federal contribution \$2 million dollars will mean a battle on the Floor, and I have my doubts that same can pass at this time.

Yesterday we passed five District of Columbia Bills and only one of same was contested. The Bill providing for a salary increase for municipal judges up to \$17,000 brough forth a roll call vote and same passed by a narrow margin.

May 25, 1955

The subcommittee on Foreign Aid of the Committee on Appropriations met this afternoon at 2 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the procedure concerning the 3½ billion dollar request made for Foreign Aid for fiscal year 1956. Prior to holding this meeting, we directed our Executive Secretary to obtain for us all available information concerning unobligated balances of Mutual Security funds up to the present

time. Last year the House passed a Mutual Security Bill containing Foreign Aid funds totaling some \$2,800,000,000 and this amount was finally raised to \$3,100,000,000. A very strong plea was made on the Floor of the House for this money urging that this appropriation was needed because available funds would not be on hand to meet pressing needs. Today we received our report concerning unobligated balance and find that the unobligated balance, as of January 31, 1955, was \$6,225,374,383. This amount is over twice the amount appropriated last year, therefore the Pentagon, the State Department, and the Foreign Operations Administration have done a good job of hiding a huge sum of money. As of February 28, 1955, the total unobligated funds for the Mutual Security Program was \$6,522,252,904. Of this amount \$5,545,500,000 was military and \$976,700,000 represented unobligated balance for other programs. We find that the total amount appropriated, including unobligated balances carried forward in Public Law 778 for fiscal year 1955, was \$5,243,575,795. Our hearings will take some three weeks, and it is our intention to have a thorough investigation made of the unobligated balances.

By a vote of 54 - 39 the Senate yesterday failed to override the veto of the President in the Postal Pay Increase Bill. A few minutes ago the Senate Civil Service Committee approved a postal pay reclassification bill calling for a pay increase of 8%. The president now indicates that he will approve an 8% measure for reclassification, but under no circumstances will approve an 8.8% straight pay increase bill.

Admiral A. A. Burke was nominated by President Eisenhower today as Chief of Naval Operations to take the place of Admiral Carney.

The \$500 consultant from Buffalo, New York, filed a report with the District of Columbia Commissioners today urging a speedup in the District program of reassessing real estate, but recommended that this speedup program be inaugurated and placed in operation by the present Assessor and his staff. The opinion of the expert concurs somewhat with our subcommittee, and next year we will look right down the Assessor's throat for considerable improvement in the reassessment problem of the District.

We will have no session Memorial Day which is on Monday of next week. On Tuesday we will take up the General Government Appropriation Bill for 1956. After this appropriation bill is passed we will only have two left. The big one is Foreign Aid amounting to some 3½ billion dollars and the next and last regular appropriation bill will be the Public Works bill. From time to time we have supplementals but these emergency matters only require one hearing. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday we will take up House Res. 206 pertaining to Housing; H. R. 5715 to extend the Loan Authorization for Veterans; and H. R. 3990 the Water Resources bill pertaining to Alaska.

Yesterday we passed H. R. 2851, a bill authorizing the Commodity Credit Corporation, acting through the Department of Agriculture, to process wheat and corn into flour and corn meal for distribution to needy persons in the United States. The object of this bill is to provide for the distribution of Wheat and Corn in the form of flour and meal to miners and their families and others in distress throughout the United States. There was only one vote against this bill and in casting this vote Congressman Fred Marshall of Minesota suprised all who were

present. He is on my Subcommittee on Agriculture and is one of the best friends that the farmers have in this country. He maintained that this would establish a precedent and disposal of our surplus commodities should be handled differently.

My full Committee meets at 10 o'clock this morning for the purpose of considering the General Government Appropriations Bill for 1956.

During general debate on our Military Reserve Bill, Congressman Frank T. Bow of Ohio offered an amendment relating to criminal jurisdiction of American Armed Forces Personnel overseas. This amendment provided that no part of the money appropriated for our Military Reserve Bill should be spent or used in a foreign country that refused to recognize our control over our own service men. In a few countries the criminal courts in the country refused to recognize army jurisdiction over our personnel. When some misdemeanor or major crime is committed, the serviceman is jerked up and tried without benefit of counsel and under no circumstances is released for trial by our own Military Courts.

At the close of World War II, several things happened which simply outraged Members of Congress and each year one of the Members of the House offers this particular bill and same passes unanimously.

H. Res. 244 was up for consideration yesterday and provided for the creation of a select Committee of three Members of the House to be appointed by the Speaker with one of same designated as Chairman to investigate the financial position of the White County Bridge Commission established by Public Law 37 of the 79th Congress. It seems that this bridge was constructed by the United States at a cost of \$500,000 and since its opening has taken in \$3,000,000 in tolls and for some reason is still a toll bridge and bankers in charge maintain that same has never paid its account. Congressman Vursell made a strong fight against this Resolution and was in turn followed by the Republicans on his side of the aisle. The Democrats voted almost to a man for the Resolution. We will now find out just why \$3,000,000 has not paid for a toll bridge costing \$500,000.

Our General Government Matters Appropriations Bill for 1956 provides for the Executive Office of the President; American Battle Monuments Commission; and Foreign Claim's Settlement Commission. The total amount appropriated under this bill is \$21,890,700. We start with the President with \$150,000 per year and next go to the White House Office with the sum of \$2,055,500 appropriated; Executive Mansion and Grounds \$366,200; Bureau of the Budget \$3,349,000; Council of Economic Advisors \$325,000; National Security Council \$240,000; Office of Defense Mobilization \$2,125,000; President's Advisory Committee on Government Organization \$60,000. Emergency Fund for the President \$1,000,000, making a total of \$9,670,700. The Federal Government maintains 22 cemeteries and we appropriated under this bill \$3,000,000 for construction of memorials and cemetery maintenance.

May 27, 1955

Prime Minister Anthony Eden's Conservative Party won an outstanding victory in the British elections yesterday. It now seems that the Tory majority in the 630 member House will be between 40 and 100 seats when tabulations are complete. According

to the early morning press, the Conservatives, and allied parties, now have 311 seats with Labor holding 238 seats, and the Liberal Party 4 seats. The Conservative Party received 11,842,884 votes, or a percentage of 50.64%. The Labor Party received 10,812,083 votes, or a percentage of 46.24%. Three of our Eastern States cast a larger vote than the total British vote. Mr. Bevin, the Labor Rebel, closed his campaign with several bitter speeches against the United States. He maintained that the Conservative Party was nothing but the conveyor belt taking to the British people the instructions and crumbs direct from the United States.

Today in the House Congressman Francis Walter, of Pennsylvania, made a very vigorous denial of President Eisenhower's charge that the Refugee Relief Act of 1953 had failed. This Act is known as the McCarran-Walter Act, and, according to the President, same should provide for a group rather than individual sponsorship, and we should eliminate the requirement for a two year history on each person applying for admission under the Act. This controversy is the aftermath of the Corsi affair. Mr. Corsi, one of the leading Italian politicians from New York State, was abruptly dismissed by Secretary Dulles over controversy as

to enforcement and policies to be exercised under the McCarran-Walter Act.

June 1, 1955

The House convened at noon yesterday and since only a few Members were back from Memorial Weekend, no legislative business was transacted. Our Majority Leader, John McCormack, of Massachusetts, was granted permission to address the House for ten minutes and during this time gave an explanation of the concurrent resolution which he introduced just before we adjourned. The Resolution is as follows:

"Whereas Communist imperialism and other forms of colonialism constitute a denial of the inalienable rights of man; and

"Whereas the people of the United States have traditionally supported other peoples in their aspirations to achieve self-government or independence in their struggle against tyranny or domination: Now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the United States should administer its foreign policies and programs and exercise its influence through its membership in the United Nations and

in other international organizations so as to support other peoples in their efforts to achieve self-government or independence under circumstances which will enable them to assume an equal station among the free nations of the world."

The free nations of the world are determined that colonialism should cease. In my opinion failure to develop the economy and to improve conditions of health and education in certain colonies throughout the world has brought us dangerously close to World War III. In order to have freedom, we must abandon throughout the world all thoughts of colonialism.

June 3, 1955

Yesterday we passed H.R. 5715, a Bill to amend the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 extending the authority of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to make direct loans and to authorize the Administrator to make additional types of direct loans. This Bill carries an authorization of \$150 million and extends the Act until June 30, 1956, and provides that a direct loan may be made to a veteran to purchase, or construct, a dwelling to be owned and occupied by him as a home, or to purchase a farm on which there is a farm residence to be occupied by the veteran as his home, or to construct on land owned by the

veteran a farm residence to be occupied by him as his home, or to repair, alter, or improve a farm residence to be occupied by him.

During the general debate on S.2090, to amend the Mutual Security Act of 1954, Senator George of Georgia stated that at least 75% of every dollar we appropriate for Mutual Security never leaves our shores and that the other 25% comes back within the course of a few months. The House Committee on Foreign Affairs now is holding hearings on its Bill to amend the Mutual Security Act of 1954 and as soon as one or the other passes, my subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations will begin hearings to determine as to whether or not \$3½ billion, the amount requested by the President, or any amount, should be appropriated. Prior to the mark-up of our Bill, I intend to call upon the Secretary of State Dulles to furnish me with proof that 75% of every dollar we appropriate never leaves our shores and 25% comes back within the course of a few months. The people of this Country are sick and tired of our expenditure of billions of dollars in foreign aid and especially so when certain matters pertaining to our domestic program are refused due to a lack of funds.

We had our third baseball practice yesterday and I believe our chances to be good to win the sixth straight game from the Republicans. My arm feels like it used to, but before our practice sessions are over I may have a stiff arm the same as last session.

According to my Whip Notice, we have up for consideration next week H.R. 5376 - to amend Rural Electrification Act of 1936; S. 2061 - the Postal Pay Raise Bill; H.R. 210 - concerning investigations in Federal Open Market Committee; H.R. 5923 - Inter American Highway; H.R. 6410 - Smithsonian Institute, Museum of History Building; H.R. 6227 - Bank Holding Company Act of 1955.

June 6, 1955

According to the press, Senator Clements and Senator Everett M. Dirksen, Republican of Illinois, have been selected to wage the fight before the Senate Appropriations Committee on behalf of the Eisenhower Foreign Assistance program and to prepare for that fight, the two Senators will leave for the Far East Sunday to make a three week inspection trip which will include the Philippines, Formosa, Thailand and the Middle East. As a Member of the Committee of Appropriations of the

House I have been assigned to the Subcommittee on Foreign Aid and the President's request of \$3,500,000,000 for Foreign Aid comes before my subcommittee and the House before same ever reaches the Senate.

Under our Parliamentary Rule all tax measures and money bills must originate in the House. Our Subcommittee is about evenly divided on the subject of Foreign Aid and we anticipate a fight from the very start. We begin our hearings tomorrow morning at 10:00 A.M. The two Senators will, of course, have a nice trip and the amount they vote upon and the bill that they receive will come from my Subcommittee.

The Supreme Court handed down a final order this past week in the Segregation suits. The order this past week provided that the schools must make a prompt and reasonable start on integration proceeding with all deliberate speed, taking into consideration such difficult problems as school administration, physical problems, transportation and revision of school districts. The Federal District will supervise compliance with the decree. During the past week our leading Democratic possibilities for the Presidential nomination except Adlai Stevenson have taken themselves out of

the contest. On the Republican side, President Eisenhower came the closest to announcing his willingness to run again.

During the week the CIO United Auto Workers made a demand on Ford Motor Company for guaranteed annual wage. This is new procedure.

A pay raise for Postal Workers passed the senate last week and the raise amounts to eight percent.

Red China, this past week, contributed its first deed to go with the words of peace she has been spouting with increasing frequency by releasing four American Fliers, who were held in violation of Korean Armistice terms.

We take up for consideration in the House today, H.R. 5376 a bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 by granting certain rights to the Administration concerning the loans for REA. I favor passage of this bill and shall speak upon same.

President Eisenhower, who stood 61st in his class of 164 when he graduated from West Point in 1915, was number one man at West Point today. The President took part in the reunion activities of the Class of 1915 and 90 of the 115 living members of the Class

were present. The class of 1915 is known as the class the stars fell on, having produced 59 "star wearing" Generals with all of same now retired. The President reviewed the Cadets and then marched with his class in the usual Class Day Ceremonies.

June 8, 1955

Yesterday my subcommittee on Foreign Operations of the Committee on Appropriations met and considered the request of the Export Import Bank for \$1,500,000 appropriation and the request of the Department of the Army for operating money to be expended in the Ryukyus Islands amounting to 3 million dollars. This is an unusually fine subcommittee due to the fact that we have some of the outstanding members of the full Committee on same. Our chairman of the full Committee, Congressman Cannon, from Missouri, serves on this Committee and our ranking Minority Member, Congressman John Tabor, from New York, also is a member. Before we complete our duties, we will have considered requests for \$3,500,000,000.

For the first time in seven years, the Republicans won a ball game. Last night the Republican team, composed of members of the House, defeated our team of Democrats, which also is composed of

members of the House. Several years ago some of the Senators played on each team, but last night only Representatives played. The final score was 12 to 4. Our manager, Congressman A. S. Herlong of Florida, definitely made up his mind to pitch Congressman Torbett McDonald of Massachusetts, a new rookie, who according to advance publicity, not only played baseball at Harvard, but played in the Yankee baseball farm system. The first time that I saw him swing a bat at practice I knew that he had played very little baseball, and last night everyone except the bat boy got a hit on the Republican side. It was simply a slaughter and after the game was beyond redemption, the manager finally took out McDonald. With my arm in its present condition, I could have pitched much better, and we had three other fellows that would have done a much better job. I played right field and during the five inning game was at bat twice. I batted 1000. I got a double and a single. The first ball thrown to me was hit five feet foul up against the fence in right field. If this ball had been ten feet inside it would have gone over the fence. The third ball pitched I knocked into left field for a double. I played a much better game than I did last year, but none of us were too good.

On Monday of this week, I made a short speech in the House on passage of S. 153, the Senate Bill amending the Rural Electrification Act eliminating certain formulas restricting the distribution of REA loans. All sixteen of the counties in my District are served by REA, and all of the counties, with the exception of Allen County, are served by Kentucky Rural Electric Coops. Allen County is served by a Tennessee Coop. The first REA loan made in Kentucky was made to the Henderson - Union County Rural Electrification Coop. This loan was completed in the year 1936. At this time 10% of the farmers in this County had electricity on their farms, and today 91% of the farmers receive electricity. 1,417,441 miles of power lines serve 4,487,045 consumers, who yearly buy 14 billion kilowatt hours. We have 26 REA Cooperatives serving more than 205,000 consumers in 110 of Kentucky's 120 counties. In addition to making this speech on the Floor, I inserted in the Record a fine editorial concerning REA from the Irvington Herald of Irvington, Kentucky.

Yesterday we passed the Senate bill providing for 8% pay increase for postal employees, and called the Private and Consent Calendars.

Yesterday the Senate rejected President Eisenhower's Public Housing Program and adopted instead a Democratic proposal for 135,000 low rent dwellings annually for four years. This makes a total of 540,000 units. The President's plan called for construction of 35,000 units each year for two years.

An article in the Washington Post yesterday certainly was enlightening and should receive the approval of some of the people in the United States. It seems that a Mrs. Martha Kemp, of 1505 Vermont Avenue, was charged with breach of the peace resulting in her acquittal with the explanation from Judge A. W. Scott that since she did not raise her voice, even though she cursed Private Reidy, the police officer, this was not a breach of the peace. The Judge said that even though she used the profane words attributed to her, it constituted no breach of the peace because she did not raise her voice. The police officer admitted that she did not raise her voice so the case was thrown out of Court.

June 9, 1955

The Subcommittee on Public Works marked up the Public Works Appropriation Bill for 1956 yesterday, and we experienced considerable difficulty holding

all of the Kentucky Projects which were recommended in the budget. Two of the projects from Eastern Kentucky were cut out notwithstanding the fact that considerable money had been expended for surveys and planning. We succeeded in having the Big Sandy River Project placed back in the bill yesterday and hope to have the Jackson Cut Off, which was approved by the Bureau of the Budget, in the bill, either in full committee tomorrow, or on the floor. Since the Ohio River at the point between the two States of Kentucky and Ohio is all in Kentucky we are charged with millions of dollars in the budget which, in reality, are of greater benefit to the State of Ohio. For this reason we are experiencing considerable difficulty in adding any new projects on the House side, and under agreement made yesterday with the Members who will be conferees it now looks like the new projects must be added in the Senate in order to retain all that we have set up in the budget on the House side. The Rough River Project seems to be our only new project for my District which we have a chance of successfully holding in on both sides. By virtue of being a Member of the Committee on Appropriations it has become very embarrassing due to the fact that one or two of the Members from Kentucky have fouled up the works and since I am a Member of the Committee other Members from other

States are maintaining that I have too much in the budget and am not entitled to all the projects requested.

According to the Washington Post and Times Herald today, the District fiscal officers are preparing for the Commissioners' approval a speeded-up plan to reassess all District real estate over a three year period. My subcommittee emphatically stated that a ten year period was not acceptable, and that the property owners of the District should bear their share of the tax burden before the money of the forty-eight States was poured into the District year after year. My speech on the floor of the House pertained in great part to the failure of the District officials to assess the real estate properly.

The House voted yesterday to speed up construction of the Inner-American Highway as a defense and good will measure. It passed by a roll call vote of 353 to 13, and calls for completion of the 3200 mile highway within three years instead of six years, as previously planned. The all-weather highway links Laredo, Texas with Panama City in Central America.

President Eisenhower called upon Congress yesterday to throw out an anti-segregation amendment that has been blocking passage of the Compulsory

Military Reserve Program Bill, stating that extraneous amendments should not be added to the bill. I presume that Representative Adam Clayton Powell, negro Democrat from New York, will be very unhappy with the President's statement. The President is of the opinion that the Senate should proceed immediately with its bill, leaving out any and all anti-segregation amendments because same are surplusage at the present time.

The controversial Natural Gas Bill, which has been before the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce for several months, was voted out of Committee yesterday by a vote of 16 to 15. This bill cancels the opinion of the Supreme Court placing control of natural gas at the well head and under supervision of the Federal Power Commission.

The Democratic Baseball team is in mourning. It now looks like we will have to secure the services of a new Manager, or get a good pitcher.

June 11, 1955

On Thursday of this week Lt. General Gruenther, U. S. Commanding Officer and Representative of the NATO Organization, appeared before our Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations.

General Gruenther served during World War II under Eisenhower, and succeeded the President in the NATO Organization. Of course, he is a graduate of West Point, and, according to newspaper reports, is one of our brilliant strategists in the United States Army. General Gruenther is a small man physically, and is quick abrupt and swaggers considerably. In fact I was very much disillusioned when I listened to his general statement concerning the world situation at the present time. It reminded me somewhat of the day that I discovered that there was no Santa Claus. After making his general statement, which consisted mainly of conundrums, jokes and slang expressions, we proceeded to interrogate him concerning the general situation of today. For instance, in making his general statement concerning the recent meeting of the Russians in Belgrade, he stated that Khrushchev was not the leader of the Russians today, but was simply pushed forward for this particular meeting by Bulganin, and that Khrushchev was nothing but a plumber and a dumb kluck. He stated that a story was told in Belgrade after the Russians left to the effect that Bulganin brought with him a bolt of cloth and explained to Tito's tailor that he would like to have a three piece suit made out of the material providing the cloth was adequate. The tailor assured him that

without any question he could make the pants, coat and also the vest, much to Khrushchev's astonishment. It seems that Khrushchev informed the tailor that he was informed by a Russian tailor in Moscow that there was not ample cloth for a three piece suit, and that the vest would have to be omitted. The Belgrade tailor immediately stated that there was ample material, and the reason for same was due to the fact that in Moscow Mr. Khrushchev might be a big man, but that he was not quite that big in Belgrade, and that the material would be ample. Gruenther informed us that Russia was now overextended, and that the demands from the satellite countries could not be fulfilled. I agree that this statement is correct. We were further informed concerning the intricate system of pipe line construction from the Atlantic Ocean through France, into Germany and through several other countries for use in time of emergency. It is just amazing to see what is being done along this line. For instance, a pipe line starting at the Atlantic Ocean runs completely across France and into Germany, and this line is so criss-crossed that in case of damage from bombs same could be quickly repaired and probably would not be out of order. We were informed that Russia now has 175 divisions consisting of from 18,000 to 20,000 men per division. We

were informed that the satellite countries have 85 divisions. We have established a series of military installations, including air bases, which completely encircles Russia and the satellite countries. There are thirty air bases and military installations in this series. Our B47s are now the best long range heavy jet bombers, and the Russians are behind on their long range bombers. We were informed that the Russians have 10,100 jet fighter planes, which exceeds our fighter plane strength by several thousand. Our air force is today so organized that bomber crews for B47s will spend their entire career in the U. S. Air Force practicing for destruction of one military target. In case of an attack we will use atomic weapons, and our encircling bases and military installations are ever alert with the necessary crews and planes trained daily, and with this period of time extending into the years with only one military project assigned. One object to destroy, and this assignment to continue during the entire service period of the enlisted man or officer. Lt. General Gruenther's son graduated at West Point in 1946 and is now a member of a B47 crew. He informed us that his son, stationed today in Europe, had one military target assigned, and that during his entire career in the

Air Force he would be committed to this one assignment until death, disability or transfer out of the active Air Force removed him from service. General Gruenther described in detail the Russian leaders, their mannerisms and abilities. His description consisted of such expressions as dumb kluck, half baked apple druken bun and many other slang expressions. A number of the Subcommittee Members seemed to be somewhat startled by the General, and when called upon stated that they had no questions. Several of us interrogated the General considerably. I enquired of the General first as to why it was that Russia, prior to World War II and during World War II, had planes consisting of fighter type and bomber type which were considered as absolutely hopeless, but in the engagement in Korea, which shortly followed World War II, the Russians blossomed forth with jet fighter planes which were simply out of this world. And I enquired as to why this sudden scientific mystery took place. I explained that during World War II the Russians had Yak I and Yak II planes which were just considered jokes as far as fighter planes were concerned, but we offered \$100,000 in the Korean engagement if the Russian pilots or the Chinese pilots would land one of the planes and turn same over to us. It was common knowledge at the time that

when we could get our jet fighters up in the air and could not get them down the Russians were successfully landing jet fighters which were much superior to ours. I enquired of the General as to what caused this development and asked him if this sudden development was brought about by German scientists who were carried off bodily into Russia, or if this was the result of the purchase by the Russians of a great many Rolls Royce engines from Great Britian which were later improved upon by the Russians. This question had puzzled me for a number of years, and judging by the action of our Subcommittee Members they were interested in an answer to same. I went into great detail explaining to the General what I had in mind so that he would understand my question. His answer came as quite a surprise. He said "Well, Mr. Congressman" and paused at this point, "I guess you would say that the Russians are a dedicated people, living their cause every day, and through this extreme dedication were able to develop this fine type of plane". I then enquired as to communism and this dedication during World War II, and prior to World War II, and why the sudden mystery over a period of two short years. And the General again backed up and started in again with the consecrated cause of communism. I was very much disappointed

with the General's testimony, and, after receiving such a silly answer to a question which has puzzled me for some time, I indicated that I had no more questions to ask.

Yesterday we had Secretary of State Dulles before our Subcommittee and he proceeded to give us a picture of the world situation from the standpoint of peace, war and the need for continuation of mutual security support at the present time. The President has requested \$3,500,000,000 for Mutual Security this year. My Subcommittee is passing upon this amount. Secretary Dulles made a statement, part on the record and part off of the record, concerning the developments during the past twenty-four months. He stressed the importance of Mutual Security and Foreign Aid at the present time. The Secretary is an able man and gave conscientious, honest answers to every question asked. Some of the answers he requested be off of the record, which we immediately agreed to. The Republican Members of our Subcommittee indicated that they would ask no questions, and each Member, in turn, stated that he had no questions. Of course, we Democrats knew that the Republicans' attitude even though same is not in line with the President's philosophy as to the

\$3,400,000,000 would, under no circumstances, place the Secretary in an embarrassing position of record. In interrogating the Secretary on our side we directed questions to him which are of importance to the people generally and some were pertinent questions. When it came my time to examine the Secretary I enquired as to just what would happen if we discontinued Foreign Aid and our Mutual Security Program. After building up his case for the \$3,500,000,000 this question came as quite a surprise, and the Secretary very calmly smiled and said, "Mr. Congressman, that is indeed a question. Let me see. Well, he said, it would put us back seven or eight years, and from the standpoint of peace or war I don't know where we would be". I then asked the Secretary if we could continue buying friends and how long our present economy would stand this kind of treatment. He admitted that purchased friends are, in many instances, no good, and that our engagement in Korea showed that some of our friends fell by the wayside. He will insert his statement in the Record going more into detail in answer to this question. I next enquired as to what proportionate part of the money appropriated for this program remained in this country with the benefits received by our

people. His answer to this question surprised me considerably because he said that 100% of the money appropriated was in the end beneficial to the people of this country. I requested a prepared statement stating further and in more detail the answer to this question. I next enquired of the Secretary as to why it was that only the leaders in the countries receiving our foreign aid apparently knew that we were furnishing millions upon millions of dollars to their respective countries; why it was that the newspapers and the people in these particular countries were not informed that they were receiving millions of our dollars which were being used in the countries for technical assistance and foreign aid generally. The Secretary admitted that we had a weakness here and that in a great many countries receiving our aid the leaders very quietly kept these matters secret because they stated that their people would react better if the money was not coming from us. I pointed out a number of instances throughout the world where signs were printed on the side of box cars and telephone poles stating that the people wanted the Americans to go home and get out of their country. In other instances our flags were destroyed and openly burned at parades. The Secretary admitted that these instances were

happening, but, in his opinion, if we obtained results we would have to go along with the system used by the leaders in these countries. He readily admitted that it would be much better and the relationship would be better if the people in these countries knew what we were doing for them. I then enquired why our money was not earmarked so that the people would have to know that we were helping them. The Secretary was quite frank and honest in all of his answers and readily admits that the present situation is tense, but he, too, stated that Russia was over-extended at the present time, and that since she was groggy we should continue to march forward with our preparations in case of an emergency. He, too, agreed that it would be much better if our people could be sold on this program and the importance of our extreme caution at the present time.

The Public Works Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations yesterday reported to the full Committee, and all hell broke loose. The Subcommittee recommended an appropriation of \$1,276,216,242, a reduction of \$512,948,758 in the budget estimates, and \$587,713,358 below similar appropriations for fiscal year 1955. This is a 28% reduction of the President's budget. Our Subcommittee simply tried

to out balance the President, and resulted in serious damage to the Democratic members of the Appropriations Committee and to the House generally. Why this particular Subcommittee would reduce the request of the President in such an amount is beyond comprehension. As a result of this extreme cut no new projects were added at any point in the United States, and a great number of the projects requested in the budget were eliminated. Two of these projects are in the State of Kentucky, and same are the Jackson Cutoff, in Congressman Perkins' District, and the Lower Cumberland River Planning Project, in Congressman Gregory's District. This tremendous cut is quite embarrassing to me, and same came as a complete surprise with no warning. The Subcommittee action was upheld by the unanimous vote of the Republican Members of the Committee and by a sufficient number of the Democrats to sustain same. In this morning's mail I received a letter from Congressman Frank E. Smith, of the 3rd District of Mississippi, who is a member of the House Public Works Committee, and this letter expresses the feelings of the majority of the Democrats in the House. This letter is as follows:

"Dear Colleague:

"The Democratic Committee on

Appropriations has apparently done everything possible to outdo the Republican Administration policy of cutting back and eliminating public works development, as demonstrated in the public works appropriation bill reported out Friday.

"From a quick examination of the bill, it appears that the Committee cut back the Eisenhower budget, with the exception of some parts of the TVA and Southwest Power, and a few items promoted especially by some Members of the Committee.

"TVA and Southwest Power are important, but they are not the sum total of public works for the country. I hope Democratic Members of Congress will not accept this one-man dictatorship, and will join in a general move to restore meritorious projects when this bill comes to the floor next week."

Cordially,

Frank E. Smith, M.C. "

The Speaker, Mr. Rayburn, and the Majority Leader, John McCormack are in a tizzy, and meetings have been held almost hourly since the full Committee approved the Public Works Bill. Some action will have to be taken in the

House because the Senate is now placed in a position of trying to restore a 28% cut which is almost impossible, and, in addition, will not be in a position to add any new projects. This may be the death knell for this year for such projects as Rough River Reservoir and Buckhorn Reservoir. Time will tell just how this serious mistake can be corrected. I offered an amendment on the Jackson Cutoff before the full Committee, and really laid this matter on the line. The vote was 18 for the amendment and 21 against the amendment. Nine of the Democratic Members of the Committee on Appropriations simply did not have courage enough to attend the full committee meeting knowing that they would have to pass upon the request of their colleagues. This bill is more of a personal matter situation than any bill that comes before our Committee. It goes without saying that the Republicans were there to a man, and my good friend, John Tabor, smiling like a cat, was enjoying this tremendous cut which he, and his side, had succeeded in selling to Members from our side of the aisle who were on this particular Subcommittee.

June 13, 1955

Senate Leaders are claiming that for the first time in years their side is out front in so far as the legislative

box score is concerned. The major measures passed in the first section of the 84th Congress are as follows:

Appropriation Bills for Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, District of Columbia, Government Matters, Independent Offices, Interior, Labor-Health and Education, State, Justice and Judiciary, Treasury and Post Office have all passed the House, with Agriculture, Independent Offices, Interior, Labor, Health and Education, State Justice and Judiciary and Post Office having passed the Senate. Contract Renegotiation, Draft Extension, Farm Price Supports, Naval Construction, Postal Pay Raise, Reciprocal Trade, and Tax Windfall Repeal all have passed the House with Ex-Presidents pensions, Foreign Aid Authorization Bill, Highway Program, House Replacement, Minimum Wage, Postal Pay Increase, Public Housing, Reciprocal have all passed the Senate.

Today we take up the Bank Holding Act of 1955 for General Debate only. This is H.R. 6227. For the balance of the week we have H. 6227 up for final vote together with H.R. 1 and H. Res. 210. For the balance of the week we only have H. 4663 which is the bill pertaining to the Trinity River Division.

June 14, 1955

Former Governor Harold Stassen testified before my Subcommittee on Foreign Operations today. As Administrator of this division of Government he gave testimony justifying an appropriation of \$3,500,000,000 for mutual security. Due to the fact that so many witnesses must be heard, and since such a large amount of money is involved, the Chairman of my Subcommittee, Congressman Passman of Louisiana, has decided to divide this particular Subcommittee into two panels with the Military Assistance Program, which involves approximately two-thirds of the total amount requested, to be considered by the Military section of the panel composed of Passman, Fernandez, Lanham and myself. The other section will take up Technical and Economic Assistance comprising approximately one-third of the amount sought, and on this panel are the following Democratic Members: Gary, Rooney, Cannon and Denton. The Five Republican Members have not indicated their selection as yet for the two panels.

We have the Bank Holding Company Act of 1955 up for final vote in the House today. This Bill is H.R. 6227, and lays down new ground laws for consolidation of banks, and prevents most of same.

June 18, 1955

On Wednesday, June 16 we took up for consideration H.R. 6766, the bill making appropriation for the Atomic Energy, T.V.A., Certain Agencies of the Department of the Interior and Civil Functions administered by the Department of the Army. The rule was adopted and by the way, it is right unusual to have an appropriations bill with a rule. No rule is necessary but in this particular instance my Committee on Appropriations hoped to obtain a closed Rule. They were not successful. On Thursday we completed general debate and the reading of the Bill under the five-minute rule. I made a speech favoring the Committee's stand on the \$6,500,000 item transferred from Dixon-Yates power line construction to Fulton, Tennessee Steam Plant Construction. This speech is recorded on page 7139 of the Congressional Record.

An amendment was offered by Congressman Phillips of California, changing the \$6,500,000 item back to Dixon-Yates line construction and on a teller vote the Amendment carried 198 to 169.

We next moved on to the portion of the bill provided for civil Function Construction.

It is customary for Members of Committees to stand with the Committee on the Floor. However, this rule is superseded in unusual cases. For instance two of Kentucky's projects were traded by the Public Works Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations and I offered the necessary amendment to restore the items before the full Committee at the time the bill was reported and much to my sorrow I was hit with a steam roller. I made up my mind I would attempt to change this matter when the bill reached the Floor. When the bill was read and we reached page 20, line 8 providing for expenditure of \$322,262,800 I offered an Amendment to strike the above figure and to insert in lieu thereof \$368,962,800 which was an increase of \$46,707,000. Up to this time no Appropriations Bill had ever been re-written on the Floor. Several years ago according to Mr. Rayburn, our Speaker, a few amendments were adopted which were minor in nature to an appropriations bill pertaining to Public Works. My amendment provided that every item pertaining to planning, survey, and construction approved by the Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of the Budget and the President of the United States which was deleted by the Subcommittee was restored to the bill. This meant the restoration of several hundred items

scattered throughout the United States. I realized that if I offered a separate amendment restoring my friend Congressman Perkins' item from the 7th District of Kentucky and my friend Congressman Gregory's item from the 1st District of Kentucky I would probably be defeated. I sincerely believed that a vigorous speech showing just what had happened and effect of said action on the United States generally coupled with the plea that all items approved as set forth above should be in the bill would make my plea attractive and same would probably be accepted.

I campaigned on the Floor for hours before making my speech and offering my Amendment. For a period of several years now the House has felt that the Committee on Appropriations has been a little arbitrary and much to my surprise the Membership was ready to revolt. My speech is recorded on page 7177 of the Congressional Record and contains quite a bit of demagoguery. The first of my speech was to the effect that I for one was more interested in the welfare of California, Florida, Maine and Michigan than I was in certain foreign countries who receive millions upon millions of our money every year for our Foreign Aid Program and that just for a change we should start considering

our people in the United States of America. Several times during my speech I was stopped by applause which by the way, is very unusual in the House and I knew then we had won, and notwithstanding every parliamentary procedure in the book which was used by the Chairman of the Committee, we succeeded in having the Amendment adopted by a vote of 112 to 87. A great number of the Members left the Floor in order that they would not have to vote with the Committee. This was quite a victory and the Press throughout the United States really used this story. Our Speaker, Mr. Rayburn, and the Majority Leader, Mr. McCormack, congratulated me and said that the action was justified.

Following the vote and ever since, I have been congratulated on the stand that I took in this matter.

Every item in the budget is now back in the bill and before this bill passes the Senate we will have one or two new items for my District.

Next week we have a number of small bills up for consideration. One of the bills raises the amount paid to Medal of Honor holders commonly known as the Congressional Medal from \$10.00 a month to \$100.00 a month, but I have my doubts that adding money will add to the honor.

June 20, 1955

President Eisenhower is attending the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Organization in San Francisco, California today and in the House we adopted House Concurrent Resolution 109 providing that a group not to exceed fourteen members of Congress should be appointed to meet jointly with the representative parliamentary groups from other North Atlantic Treaty members meeting in conference in Paris in July of 1955, for discussion of numerous problems in the interest of the maintenance of peace and security in the North Atlantic area.

Under suspension of Rules we passed Classified Employee Pay Raise Bill of 7.5% today.

The Courier Journal is of the opinion that I was the leader in increasing the Public Works Appropriation Bill nearly \$50,000,000 for Flood Control, Rivers and Harbors improvement and Navigation improvement. In addition, Kentucky benefitted because two projects which were deleted by the Committee were restored under my Amendment. This to the Courier Journal is strictly log-rolling and since Kentucky received considerable benefit even though none of the

projects were in my District, I plead guilty. The trouble with Kentucky generally and one or two of our large newspapers is that for a period of over 30 years, Kentucky has been the step-child of the Administration and especially my District and during my tenure I shall see that Kentucky generally and my District in particular is treated fairly.

June 21, 1955

President Eisenhower informed the United Nations Organization yesterday in San Francisco that the world's millions seem to be commanding governments everywhere to find the path to a just and lasting peace. After ten years with no peace we face a second decade with the knowledge of nuclear weapons and the hope that enduring peace will result.

Today my Subcommittee on the District of Columbia Appropriations meets for the purpose of receiving the District Commissioners proposed new plan of equalization of real estate. During our hearings on this particular bill this matter was stressed considerably. The District Officials finally admitted that the system of equalization of real estate was defective. At the same hour my Subcommittee on Appropriations for the

Department of Agriculture meets to consider supplemental items requested by the President. Since I took such an active part in the equalization hearing before the District Subcommittee, I will attend this particular meeting today.

The fall of Juan D. Peron as President and Dictator of Argentina may be a matter of only hours away. During the past several days navy planes of Argentina and the fleet generally has attacked with gunfire the Government House and attempted to take over the country. Peron's friend, General Franklin Lucero, Argentine Army Minister stayed with him and assisted in bringing the rebellion to a quick close. Argentina today is ruled by a three man Junta composed of Peron, Lucero and one of the navy Admirals. Peron was recently excommunicated by the catholic Church and a great number of priests were in jail at this particular time and several Catholic Churches were set on fire. It now seems that Peron has violated the same rule that brought about the downfall of Hitler.

June 23, 1955

We had up in the House for consideration today, House Concurrent Resolution introduced by our Majority

Leader, Mr. John McCormack, which sets forth our position as far as colonization is concerned and emphatically denies that we have any ideas of advancement along this line. We also took up for consideration H.R. 6382, a Bill pertaining to the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission and passed same.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations restored the full \$20,000,000 Federal Payment to the District of Columbia yesterday and stated that the District Commissioners are to be commended for a high degree of fiscal responsibility. Our Subcommittee reduced the amount of this particular contribution of \$4,000,000 and reported to the full Committee that the Commissioners were guilty of fiscal irresponsibility. The Conference will now decide as to which position is correct. According to experience of the past the position of the Senate will prevail.

We also adopted Senate-House Conference report providing for a pay increase of 7.5 percent for government employees.

Soviet Foreign Minister, V. M. Molotov, declared in San Francisco yesterday that we should pass from words to deeds in order to establish

a world in which east and west could live together in peaceful co-existence. He placed the blame squarely on the United States for the present state of unrest in the world and reiterated the Soviet proposal to firmly establish for once and for all the necessary trust among nations. After reading such statements I still feel much better when I know that we have airfield installations completely encircling Soviet Russia and have joint rights in some 120 airfields and military installations throughout Europe. I certainly do not agree with President Eisenhower on a great many of his domestic problems but his views concerning the necessity of remaining strong militarily and standing firmly in all matters concerning Russia, certainly meets with my approval.

The Secretary of the Army, Robert P. Stephens resigned. This resignation, which becomes effective July 31, leaves only Senator McCarthy of the six principals in the Televised Army-McCarthy-Senate Hearings which created such an uproar several months ago. I know full well that the President was glad to receive this resignation and William Rucker, former governor of Michigan will be the successor.

The House Banking Committee approved President Eisenhower's plan

for 35,000 new federally subsidized housing units in each of the next two years. An earlier Senate vote called for 35 thousand units annually over a four-year period.

June 27, 1955

The Subcommittee on Ways and Means reported out H.R. 6992 which would extend for one year the existing temporary increase of \$6,000,000 in the permanent public debt ceiling of \$275,000,000. The present temporary increase of \$6,000,000 would expire on June 30, 1955 and the extension raises the permanent debt ceiling to \$281,000,000. This legislation will probably be up for consideration today. The Secretary of the Treasury has requested the increase informing the Members of Congress that the present National indebtedness is \$273,000,000 but that within the next few months the Federal Government will have to borrow several billion dollars which will place our public debt at approximately \$280,000,000.

C. A. Reis, President of the Green River Valley Citizens League, Inc., took issue with the Louisville, Kentucky, Courier Journal on their editorial in which I was accused of "log-rolling" due to my success in having adopted an Amendment providing

that all rivers and harbor projects, flood control and navigation approved by the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of the Budget which were deleted by my Committee on Appropriations were automatically restored with the amount of the bill increased \$46,707,000 thereby placing back in the Bill two Kentucky projects which were deleted. The Courier Journal stated that my action was "log-rolling" and since I helped Kentucky and the United States generally, I plead guilty. Mr. Reis' letter to the Editor of the Courier Journal, which was placed in a very prominent spot on the editorial page states as follows:

"Kentucky should, and the Green River Valley in particular does, resent criticism, if any, of Congressman Natcher in your June 18 editorial. Although cautiously worded, even the last sentence seems uncertain. It is certain though, as Mr. Natcher advised us on the phone June 17, 'we had our day in court, not as a pawn in the T.V.A. issue but as a matter of justice to what you call, 'piddling home district appropriations.' The T.V.A. issue was decided first without reference to the other and Mr. Natcher spoke at length for T.V.A. concluding with: "I urgently request that the amendment be defeated thereby expressing to the world our distrust of the

philosophy behind the Dixon-Yates deal." As we said to Mr. Natcher 'justice had a field day,' in other respects.

Senator Clements' office wired June 17: 'This is to advise that H.R. 6766 has passed the House of Representatives, carrying appropriation of \$4,400,000 for locks and dams on Green River and \$2,275,000 for dredging. Senator Clements will support addition to the bill providing funds to start construction of Rough River and planning funds for the other three up stream reservoirs.' For example, The Cumberland and Kentucky also gained and these projects you have espoused most vigorously. They why be critical of an able congressman fighting for all Kentucky?

Your concern for the lost cause of a proposed T.V.A. plan in Tennessee seems strange when we recognize the true interests of Kentucky in that matter. The latter is not anti-T.V.A., but dictates the proposed plant be built in the Green River Valley where the lowest cost (coal, steam, electricity) in the world can be made and where resultant savings to the federal government (under the Memphis area costs) can be as much as \$14,000 daily on the contemplated 600,000 K.W. plant.

Please do not infer that our valley is too far removed from the point of consumption, because when the added power is made at Memphis, it will release to the Paducah atomic works the power now made at Johnsonville, Tennessee. Johnsonville is roughly 108 miles by transmission lines from Paducah while Central City and Bowling Green (both in the Green River Valley) are respectively only about 67.5 and 98 miles from suitable Paducah circuits.

But the Green River Valley is impotent in the matter because it lacks upstream reservoirs. Yet you question a Kentuckian's efforts at correction by applying the charge of 'log-rolling' and 'pork-barrelling.' Frankly, Kentucky needs more of the same and the Courier Journal too should commend it. Is the work of the Green River Valley Citizens League, Inc. also 'unsavory'? And how else are we to solve our problems of out-migration, unemployment, low incomes, underemployment, relief rolls and the like?

Perhaps, both the T.V.A. and our Valley are in better position by reason of the House action of June 16. Time will tell."

(signed)

C. A. Reis, Honorary President
GRCL

I flew down to Kentucky this past weekend and find the Governor's race still hot and with plenty of mud-slinging.

Secretary Dulles' speech to the United Nations 10th Anniversary meeting in San Francisco was a masterpiece. He stated our position emphatically and further stated that we would continue with our present acts to maintain peace in the world. He called attention to the fact that no nation had withdrawn from the United Nations Organization since its beginning and that a list of nations requesting admission is now under consideration. Mr. Dulles stated that there was one method of bringing an end to the cold war and that was to observe the charter of the United Nations. He cited as examples the action in Korea, Indo-China, Austria, Yugoslavia, Germany and Japan.

Senator McCarthy has about lost his rabbit-foot. His Resolution prohibiting American efforts at the Big Four Conference unless Soviet Russia agreed to discuss the satellite problem was defeated 77 to 4.

The Senate marks up the Public Works Bill today and I succeeded in placing projects in the Bill for Kentucky in the total amount of \$14,870,000. To this amount I hope

the Senate will be able to incorporate the Rough River Reservoir, additional planning money for the Big Sandy and the Kentucky and construction money for Cattletsburg. A million dollars additional money will take care of these items. My Committee on Appropriations will name as the House Conferees, friends of mine who will go along with me on the Senate mark-up.

The President certainly acts like a man who is a candidate in 1956. On a six-day trip through New England this past week, he reminded me of the campaign of 1952.

We have seven District of Columbia bills up for consideration in the House today.

My Subcommittee on Foreign Operations meets at 10:00 a.m. today and we continue our hearings on the request of \$3,500,000,000 mutual security. We have the Under-Secretaries of State and their Assistants to discuss the proposed amount of economic and technical assistance requested.

In 1937 I announced for County Attorney and this was an early announcement. For several months I had no opposition and on June 17, Virginia and I were married. While we were on our honeymoon, Howell W. Vincent,

another young lawyer who had moved to Bowling Green from Edmonson County, announced, and the day following his announcement filed suit against me stating that when I married and left my father's home I established another home, thereby losing my vote and disqualifying myself for the race. At this time his brother was Congressman of the Second District and the wheels began to move to have my name removed from the ballot. My judge was out of the State thereby placing another judge in position to try this case. Virginia and I returned home upon receipt of telegram and after five days in court I won the suit. Vincent received less than 1000 votes and I received almost 10,000. He remained in Bowling Green for about a year and a half and then started practicing in Covington, Kentucky. I had been his friend and was surprised that he would treat me as he did. On Saturday of last week Howell W. Vincent was disbarred as a lawyer and for two years is prevented from practice. He has certainly hit a new low level.

June 28, 1955

Yesterday Speaker Rayburn named Congressmen Rabaut, Passman, Natcher, Cannon, Wilson, James and Taber as conferees on part of the House for H.R. 6239, the Bill making appropriations for the District of Columbia.

At 2:00 p.m. we met on the Senate side with senators Stennis, Holland, Bible and Beall. The good Senators really received a fine lesson in the old game of poker from my colleagues, Congressman Cannon of Missouri and Congressman Taber of New York. The fight is over the Federal contribution to the District. In our appropriations bill we set forth the amount of \$16,000,000 for the contribution and this amount was raised by the Senate to \$20,000,000 which is the maximum. We agreed on 32 points in the Bill where changes were made by the Senate and in some instances we receded and in some instances the Senate receded. When we reached the item pertaining to the Federal contribution we refused to budge and the Senators were quite startled. When we left the conference room last night they were under the impression that we would give a little but under no circumstances would give completely. The Washington newspapers, who believe that they are in charge of the District Government will be somewhat surprised when the report is made from this conference. I am positive that the House will sustain our action and if necessary we will sign the conference report in disagreement and request the House to sustain our action. Before we left the conference we indicated without any question we were ready to sign in disagreement and leave the matter up to the House. Senator Stennis requested that we pass

the matter up for a day or two indicating that the Senate would have to yield.

June 30, 1955

Our Conference for the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill split the difference and voted an \$18,000,000 Federal payment into the District budget for fiscal year 1956. We on the House side made up our minds that under no circumstances would we agree to a \$20,000,000 Federal contribution for the District of Columbia and convinced the Senate that we meant business. The Washington newspapers, who by the way, believe that they rule the District will start today to blast the Conferees for their action.

President Eisenhower said yesterday that Congress had failed so far to pass a number of necessary bills and that we were dragging our feet. Majority Leader Johnson immediately issued a statement that the Congress of the United States was not composed of 2nd Lieutenants who were forced to bow down to orders of the General and that the record of the first session of the 84th Congress was excellent. Today the President issued another statement that he was willing to thank personally anyone who voted for the important legislation passed so far but that more was needed. Johnson immediately issued

another statement that Congress would give fair, just and reasonable consideration to the President's request but that we are not going to carry out a lot of instructions like a bunch of 2nd Lieutenants.

We completed general debate on the Mutual Security Act of 1955 and today will finish the five-minute rule and vote upon same. This is the authorization bill for Mutual Security. My Subcommittee on Mutual Security will complete hearings today and tomorrow will mark up our bill. The request for \$3,500,000,000 will be cut. We will take up next the Military Reserve Bill and this will be followed by the Social Security Amendments Bill of 1955.

We will vote on the Mutual Security authorization bill before adjournment today. The \$3,500,000,000 request was cut \$139,000,000 by the Senate authorization bill and we are considering \$3,285,800,000. Several Members have offered amendments seeking to cut all amounts set up for India and Yugoslavia. Another controversy was started over a provision of the bill which would repeal a law requiring that at least half of all surplus food shipped abroad must be carried in American Vessels. We are considering this bill under an open rule.

Shortly after noon today the House accepted the Conference Report on the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill for 1956. Congressman Smith of Virginia wanted to offer a motion to send the Conference Report back to the Conferees with instructions to raise the Federal contribution from the \$18,000,000 agreed upon to \$20,000,000. We had a Member of our Committee on the Republican side prompted to offer a motion sending the Report back to Committee without instructions. Congressman Smith received a telephone call and while he was outside talking on the phone, the House adopted the Conference Report. The good Congressman was not only indignant but considerably hurt by the fact that he was not present at the crucial time. Congressman Smith made the fight on the Floor at the time the House passed this Bill to restore the \$4,000,000 cut to the Federal contribution. By a one-vote majority we sustained the recommendation of the Bill at \$16,000,000. With the Senate yielding and agreeing to a \$2,000,000 reduction in the Federal contribution, this brings the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill to a successful conclusion.

July 1, 1955

We completed action on S. 2090 yesterday. This is the Mutual Security

Authorization Act of 1955. On a roll call vote the ayes were 273 and the nos were 128. I voted for passage of this Bill. During the five minute rule we adopted the Bonner Amendment which provides that 50% of the surplus commodities and Government material delivered from this country under the Mutual Security Act must be shipped in American ships. There was some question in my mind about this particular Amendment at this time due to the fact that a number of our friends are objecting to such a restriction. For instance, Norway refused to buy \$15,000,000 worth of surplus commodities within the past few weeks due to the fact that we have the 50-50 shipping provision in our law.

Just before completion of the Mutual Security Act, U Nu, Premier of Burma, addressed the House, and after making his remarks he stood in the well of the House and shook hands with the Members. As we were going down the aisle to shake hands with U Nu, I informed my good friend, Congressman Passman, Chairman of our Subcommittee on the appropriation for the Mutual Security Act, that he should take the check along for Burma and deliver it in person. He at first did not understand what I meant, but finally understood my statement and passed the word all up and down the line that, notwithstanding the fact that U Nu had no pockets in

his gown, (dressed in native costume) he was informed that this would make no difference because U Nu had said he would carry the check in his hand. Seriously speaking, U Nu, upon being presented to President Eisenhower at the White House, delivered a check to the President in the sum of \$5,000 to be used for the widows and children of servicemen killed in Burma by the Japanese.

U Nu speaks splendid English, and his speech was well received by the Members of the House. Shortly before appearing at the Capitol he stopped by Secretary of Agriculture Benson's office to pay his respects, and was permitted to cool his heels for some five or ten minutes and then got up in a huff and marched out. Secretary Benson later during the day went to Blair House and apologized to U Nu.

President Eisenhower last night unexpectedly ordered an immediate re-study of the controversial Dixon-Yates Power Plant Project to determine whether it is in the interest of the Tennessee Valley people to continue or cancel the contract. The White House said that the President's decision was based on a June 23rd announcement by the City of Memphis that it was proceeding to build its own power plant. Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B.

Johnson announced that if the President can take another look at the Dixon-Yates contract certainly Congress should, and it would not seem very prudent to appropriate funds for a project that is unwanted and unneeded. In our Public Works Bill which only recently passed the House the \$6,500,000 for construction of the Dixon-Yates transmission line across the Mississippi River from West Memphis, Arkansas to Memphis, Tennessee was left in after a terrific battle. For days now hearings have been held in the Senate on this particular matter, and the Mayor of Memphis seems to have settled this issue for the time being.

A compromise \$31,882,815,726 Defense Appropriations Bill sailed through the House and Senate yesterday without debate, and went to President Eisenhower for his expected early signature. The final Bill represents a mixture of victory and defeat for the old soldier in the White House. It includes his proposals attacked by Democrats for cutting Army and Navy manpower while boosting men, materials and money for the Air Force. It also includes \$46,000,000 more than Mr. Eisenhower had asked for the Marine Corps. This will present the President's plan for trimming the Marines from their present strength of 215,000 to 193,000. The appropriation carries \$14,739,763,170 for the Air Force,

thereby boosting Air Force manpower some 970,000 to 975,000. It includes \$9,118,179,556 for the Navy, with a manpower cut from 672,000 to 664,000, but it provides funds for five new atomic powered submarines and a new super carrier for the Navy. The Army will get \$7,329,953,000 with manpower dropping this year from 1,114,000 to 1,027,000.

During our hearings on agricultural supplemental request this past week Congressman H. Carl Andersen, of Minnesota, made the statement that more people in his Congressional District could read and write than in any other Congressional District in the United States. He was complimented considerably by the Members of the Subcommittee, and several Assistant Secretaries of Agriculture who were present at the hearing. And, just to be facetious, I informed Congressman Andersen that this certainly was an outstanding achievement and compared very favorably with the Second Congressional District of Kentucky where we have more people with Phi Beta Kappa keys on one end of a watch chain and no watch on the other end than in any other Congressional District in the United States.

July 2, 1955

The House yesterday by voice vote

approved a slightly modified form of President Eisenhower's Military Reserve Bill. Representative Adam Powell's non-segregation amendment was defeated on a teller vote 156 to 105. This Bill is designed to build up a ready reserve of 2,900,000 men by 1960.

The Subcommittee on Public Works of the Senate Appropriations Committee agreed yesterday to place the Rough River Reservoir Project in the House Public Works Appropriation Bill providing the Conferees on my Committee would agree to same in final conference. I took care of this matter immediately and we will secure the Rough River Reservoir in addition to canalization of Green River for 103 miles, and completion of two new locks and dam on Green River, also planning money for Barren River.

The Senate Appropriations Committee yesterday approved an earlier Administration request that \$6,500,000 of the \$27,500,000 TVA budget be devoted to building a Dixon-Yates transmission line across the Mississippi River.

The House Rules Committee yesterday handed President Eisenhower a legislative set back when it refused by a tie vote to clear his Public Housing Program for floor action. This measure was blocked by coalition of all

four Republicans on the Committee and the two Southern Democrats - Congressman Smith of Virginia, and Congressman Colmer of Mississippi.

Washington awoke yesterday to a massive transportation tie up brought on by a strike that closed down all Capital Transit streetcars and bus service. In driving down to the office building I drove bumper to bumper all the way from Bethesda, Maryland. I have never seen as many automobiles in motion as I did yesterday. There were hundreds of thousands of automobiles traveling all over the city and parking was permitted in the middle of Pennsylvania Avenue on the streetcar tracks, and, according to the news reports today, the transit strike parleys are deadlocked and will probably remain that way until the middle of next week.

July 5, 1955

We passed the Legislative Appropriation Bill last week which provides the sum of \$66,298,175 to run Congress and the Library of Congress during the fiscal year of 1956. This Bill contains \$5,000,000,000 to extend the East Front of the Capitol; \$31,300,000 to run the House of Representatives; \$9,600,000 to run the Library of Congress and the necessary money to pay the District policemen stationed at the Capitol. The Senate will add its own expenses to

this Bill. At the request of Congressman Clare E. Hoffman, Representative of Michigan, the Bill was amended to limit use of the proposed House Restaurant in the Capitol Extension to Members and their guests and House Employees. The Amendment passed and then Congressman Hoffman proceeded to tangle with Speaker Sam Rayburn on a parliamentary question concerning the use of the words "engrossed and read a third time with motion to table laid on the desk". Congressman Hoffman, mean and cantankerous and 73 years of age, came out second best in this shuffle with the Amendment defeated on the final passage of the Bill.

Washington is experiencing today its biggest traffic jam in history as new efforts failed yesterday to settle the Transit strike.

Much to the surprise of our Ambassador to Russia, Khrushchev, 1st Secretary of the Communist Party, put in a surprise appearance at the United States Embassy's Fourth of July party and made a little speech in which he said that if the Western Powers met the Soviet Union on an equal basis at the coming Geneva Conference something will come of it but that it will be no use to hold such a conference if we go as merchants.

Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Democrat of Texas, suffered a severe heart

attack on Saturday of last week and is now confined to the Naval Medical Center at Bethesda, Maryland, where he will remain for several weeks. According to one of his aides the Senator will not be able to return to active duty this session of Congress. Senator Johnson is 46 years of age and has lived a rugged life. A former page in the House and son of a Congressman, he was later elected to the House of Representatives and served several terms before being elected Senator. He is a protege of Speaker Sam Rayburn and since the Speaker has no children and is unmarried, this attachment has become real close. I recall distinctly the first time I ever saw Lyndon Johnson. When I was President of the Young Democratic Club of Kentucky, we invited the young Congressman Lyndon Johnson to appear before our State Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, to make the principal address. We met the plane and the good Congressman was wearing Texas boots and was extremely drunk.

Senator Earle C. Clements of Kentucky, Majority Whip, will take over the duties of Majority Leader until Senator Johnson is able to return to the Senate.

Last year we secured \$4,800,000 for beginning of construction of the two new locks and dam at Spottsville and Rumsey, Kentucky. This amount plus

the \$800,000 supplemental request started construction in fine shape. The House approved \$4,400,000 for completion of the two new locks and dam in this year's budget plus \$275,000 for canalization of Green River beginning at the mouth and extending to mile 103. Our present Public Works Appropriation Bill contains 17 Kentucky projects and the total amount for same is \$17,012,000. The projects are: Green River Lock and Dam Number one and two - \$4,400,000; Green River dredging - \$2,275,000; Survey of lower Cumberland River - \$200,000; \$70,000 for planning for Buckhorn Reservoir in Perry County; Jackson Cut-off on the Kentucky River - \$246,000 to start and complete the job; Maysville Flood Wall \$1,540,000 to complete the project; Pineville Flood Wall \$816,000 for construction; Barberville Flood Wall \$600,000 to start construction; Green-up lock and dam on the Ohio River, \$4,000,000 to start construction; Louisville Flood Wall project \$475,000. The items listed above were on the House Appropriations Bill for my Committee on Appropriations and in the mark-up last week the Senate added \$500,000 for the Rough River Reservoir construction start; \$100,000 for planning of Barren River Number Two Reservoir and \$1,125,000 to provide for construction of the Markland lock and dam on the Ohio River in Gallatin County, Kentucky with this appropriation now being

\$1,250,000; increased the Kentucky River Survey Fund from \$20,000 as passed in the House to \$50,000 and the Big Sandy Survey as passed in the House in the amount of \$20,000 to the sum of \$40,000; the Catlettsburg advance plan and design was increased from the House figure of \$50,000, \$250,000 making the total \$300,000 and an additional project for planning amounting to \$150,000 for Louisville, Kentucky's new dam, lock and canal added. In other words, the Senate added projects and increased items in the sum total of \$2,175,000 bringing the seventeen Kentucky projects up to the total of \$17,012,000.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations finally approved the 6½ million dollars for the Dixon-Yates power line with a proviso that this amount should not be expended if the city of Memphis decided to build its own power unit.

From January 5, to June 30 of 1955, the House has been in session 92 days taking some 3,611 pages in the Congressional Record. This figure added to the 4,679 from the Senate makes a total of 8,290 pages. Eight hundred and sixty House Bills have passed so far and for my Committee on Appropriations we have passed the following: H.R. 4876 making appropriation for Treasury-Post Office

Department in the final sum of \$3,322,488,500; H.R. 5046 making appropriation for Labor-HEW in the final sum of \$2,404,905,600; H.R. 5085 making appropriation for the Interior in the final sum of \$317,573,627; H.R. 5239 making appropriation for Agriculture in the final sum of \$883,051,623; H.R. 5240 Independent Offices appropriation in the final sum of \$5,842,458,500; H.R. 5502 making appropriation for State, Justice, Judiciary in the final sum of \$481,985,418; H.R. 6042 making appropriation for the Defense in the final sum of \$31,882,815,726; H.R. 6239 making appropriation for the District of Columbia in the final sum of \$168,843,440; H.R. 6367 making appropriation for Commerce in the final sum of \$1,245,360,000; H.R. 6499 making appropriation for the General Government in the final sum of \$27,166,300; H.R. 6766 making appropriation for Public Works in the final sum of \$1,372,122,800; H.R. 7117 making appropriation for Legislative in the final sum of \$66,298,175.

July 6, 1955

The District Commissioners proposed yesterday that income tax exemptions for Washington residents be lowered and taxes on income over \$20,000 be raised. They suggested exemptions for a man and wife be lowered from \$4,000 to \$2,000, and exemptions

for a single person would be \$1,000, and \$500 would be allowed dependents. No action was taken to raise the real estate taxes by the Commissioners on their own authority, and they are still dodging this matter. The tax rate here in the District is \$2.20 per hundred, which is considerably lower than any city in the United States.

The Senate, by a voice vote, yesterday granted funds for a Dixon-Yates power plant extension line across the Mississippi River in the sum of \$6,500,000, but this appropriation to be made only if the City of Memphis fails to go ahead with its own power plant project. The senate acted in approving an over-all \$1,377,000,000 Public Works Bill. This is the House Public Works Appropriation Bill, and the two new projects for the Second Congressional District of Kentucky - \$500,000 for beginning of construction of the Rough River Reservoir Project and \$100,000 for beginning of survey and planning for Barren River No. 2 Reservoir - will now go to conference, with the House Conferees to be Members of my Committee on Appropriations.

Directors of General Motors Corporation recommended today a three for one stock split to be voted on by stockholders at a special meeting on September 23rd.

Congress yesterday received a "must" list of five major administrative bills as leaders of both parties recanvassed the legislative outlook in the light of the illness of the Senate's leader, Lyndon B. Johnson, Democrat of Texas. The five bills are: (1) The President's atomic peace ship recently rejected by the Senate. (2) President's House passed Military Reserve Bill. (3) President's Highway Building Program passed by the Senate in an unwanted form. (4) President's Public Housing Program blockaded by the House Rules Committee, and, (5) a School Construction Program now stymied in both Houses by possible anti-segregation riders.

Washington's transit strike ran yesterday through the fifth day of a negotiating stalemate with no break in sight. Traffic conditions in the District today are terrible.

My Subcommittee on Foreign Operations of the Committee on Appropriations meets this morning at 10 o'clock a.m. for the purpose of marking up the bill for Mutual Security.

July 9, 1955

This week the House voted to vest in the Federal Government, ownership of

all the official papers of the Nation's Presidents. The documents are now scattered over the country and no one knows where a lot of them are located. Our Majority Leader, Representative McCormack of Massachusetts, introduced a Bill providing that the General Services Administration could buy up all the Presidential Records wherever they are located and the cataloguing job would be done by the National Archivist.

During the week we passed bills providing for Coal Resources; Presidential Library; amended Railroad Act of 1937; providing for diversion of water from Lake Michigan by the City of Chicago; Philippines Trade Agreement Revision Act of 1955; Air Pollution Control Act of 1949; Mexican Labor, generally called the "Wetback Bill"; Providing for the operation of schools at Armed Services Reservations; and authorizing Printing Inquiry.

On Wednesday Speaker Sam Rayburn called me up to the desk and informed me that he wanted me to try my hand as Chairman of the Whole House during the consideration of one of our bills. He mentioned H.R. 3253, the Bill providing for operation of schools at Armed Services locations. The next day the first bill up for consideration was H.R. 6059, providing for Philippines

Trade Agreement Revision Act of 1955. The Speaker sent one of the pages back where I was sitting and informed me that he had changed his mind and wanted me to preside during the consideration of H.R. 6059. This Bill is a bill from the Ways and Means Committee and contained a number of Committee Amendments and came out under a closed rule. I was very much concerned over the matter but every Member of the House was unusually nice and after the rule was adopted we had general debate and the reading of the Bill without any difficulty. This was my first attempt at presiding over the House and same was quite an honor. The Speaker from time to time permits one of the new Members to preside while he answers the phone or while he has to be out a minute or so but when a bill is up or when the House resolved itself into the Committee of the whole House on the State of the Union the Speaker has selected older Members to preside. So far, I am the only Member with ten years or less experience who has been so honored this session. Page 8649 of the Congressional Record states: "accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the Bill, H.R. 6059, with Mr. Natcher in the Chair.

The Senate and House Conferees met on Thursday on this past week and agreed as to the matters in controversy in the Public Works Bill. Rough River Reservoir, which is located in my Congressional District was agreed to and same remained in the Bill. This item is \$500,000 for beginning of construction. Planning money for Barren River Reservoir Number 2 of \$100,000 was deleted with the Senate Conferees receding. I am not concerned about this matter because the people generally, in Allen County, Kentucky are against this Reservoir and same is located about nine miles from Scottsville, Kentucky.

Congressman John J. Bell, Democrat of Texas, was indicted yesterday by Guadalupe County Grand Jury in Texas on charges that he and two others conspired to steal more than \$150,000 from the State of Texas in a land transaction. The indictment is part of the scandal in the \$100,000,000 Veterans Land Program in Texas. Congressman Bell issued a statement yesterday that he was shocked and surprised and was only serving as attorney for the other two who were indicted.

My Subcommittee on Foreign Operations reported to the full Committee on Appropriations Friday morning

and our Bill was successfully voted. We take same to the Floor on Monday of next week.

The Democratic-steered House Appropriations Committee yesterday slashed a whopping \$527,900,000 from President Eisenhower's foreign aid request with a blast at "chaotic" finances of the world aid program.

The 20 percent cut would reduce new aid funds for the current fiscal year to \$2,638,741,750. Congress only Thursday authorized \$3,285,000,000 for the aid program.

While Congress traditionally votes less aid money than it authorizes, the size of the Committee reduction was somewhat of a surprise.

A fight to restore some of the money may come when the House takes the Bill up Monday, and again in the Senate. The Foreign Aid Bill is one of the major items in Mr. Eisenhower's foreign policy program.

The President signed the authorization bill yesterday but this has no effect on the amount of money eventually provided for the program by Congress.

July 12, 1955

Yesterday I spoke to the House on

the Mutual Security Appropriations Bill for 1956. Our Subcommittee on Foreign Operations Appropriations of the Committee on Appropriations presented the annual Foreign Aid Bill to the Members of the House. Beginning on page 8787 of yesterday's Record my comments will be found. In substance I stated that our most important step toward mutual security was the creation of the United Nations, and, as provided for under its charter, we must save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. The United States occupies the top position as far as leadership of the world is concerned and we must temper this leadership with love, Christianity, understanding and vigilance. We must remain strong spiritually, economically, and militarily in order to preserve our freedom and the peace of the world. In addition I stated that the free world is today threatened by the most dangerous aggregation of aggressive power in our entire history. The Soviet Union and Communist China today maintain the largest collection of men under arms ever assembled in peace time.

When we compare our Armed Forces with that of Communist world we see the difference. They have nearly nine million men under arms. To maintain such an army would place a tremendous burden upon the people. With nuclear weapons and present day airpower we

must have a strong network of sea and air bases scattered throughout the world. Foreign aid is essential at the present time, and we must keep our friends in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

I certainly enjoyed making this speech and the Members of the House were very complimentary. The Speaker came over and sat with me after I finished making my speech and was quite complimentary.

We are now working for adjournment and I hope that we can finish up by August 10. There are several controversial matters such as Minimum Wage Increase, Highway Construction Program, and the Natural Gas Act of 1955.

Since I was elected to the Committee on Appropriations I have made speeches on the Floor of the House on each Bill presented by my Subcommittee. First we presented the Agricultural Appropriations Bill, next Appropriations Bill for the District of Columbia for 1956, and the Bill yesterday provided for Foreign Aid Appropriations for 1956.

Senator Lyndon Johnson, Majority Leader of the Senate, according to News reports today, will be confined to the Bethesda Naval Hospital for a period of

one month and for several months thereafter must take it extremely easy in recovering from a severe heart attack.

President Eisenhower yesterday selected the first Negro for a high position on his Executive Office Staff.

I failed to mention above that the House overwhelmingly approved the Foreign Aid money Bill yesterday after brushing aside a last minute Administration request for the full amount requested by President Eisenhower. The Bill was approved by a roll call vote of 251-123.

President Eisenhower yesterday ordered the controversial Dixon-Yates power contract cancelled after receiving an on-the-spot assurance from the Mayor of Memphis that the Tennessee City would build its own power plant in the same area. The Attorney General will take immediate steps to terminate the Dixon-Yates contract and negotiate a settlement on same.

According to my mail the Public Works Committees Bill known as the Fallon Highway Bill is a controversial measure.

July 14, 1955

The Conference Report for our Public Works Bill was adopted yesterday on a roll call vote 315 to 92. Four of the conferees on the House side, all Republicans by the way, Congressman John Taber, of New York, Congressman Hand, of New Jersey, Congressman Davis, of Wisconsin, and Congressman Phillips, of California, refused to sign the Conference Report and led the fight against its adoption. The Senate should adopt the Conference Report today. Final adoption by the Senate assures my District of construction money for the new Rough River Reservoir, canalization of Green River and completion of two locks and dam at Spottsville and Runsey, Kentucky.

Mrs. Oveta Clup Hobby resigned yesterday as Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare due to illness of her husband, former Governor Hobby, of Texas. This good lady established quite a record during the war with the WACS, and since her appointment as Secretary has stirred up quite a controversy. She will be succeeded by Treasury Under Secretary Marion B. Folsom.

President Eisenhower has again renewed his request for authority, and the necessary appropriation to build an atomic powered peace ship, with this

ship to sail around the world stopping at many points for inspection.

The Administration decided to make its fight for restoration of the \$627,900,000 cut in the Foreign Aid Appropriation Bill in the Senate, and this House-Senate Conference will really be a honey. Congressman Taber came over and sat with me a minute yesterday and inquired as to my future position in this matter. I informed him that I certainly was not in favor of restoring the total amount cut by the House, and would like to see the appropriation remain in the same amount that passed the House.

President Eisenhower reported to Congress yesterday that \$1,200,000,000 of surplus farm goods was sold, obligated for foreign currencies, bartered or distributed for relief in the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1955. These commodities were disposed of under the terms of the Agricultural Trade Development Act passed last year. This Act was designed to help reduce the Government's stock of surplus farm products which now total about \$7,100,000,000.

July 19, 1955

On Friday of last week President Eisenhower signed the Public Works Appropriations Bill for 1956. He stated that he signed this Bill reluctantly,

and that since 107 unbudgeted projects for construction starts were added by Congress, and with many of them lacking detailed engineering studies and no basis for determining their financial soundness and ultimate cost to the Federal Government, therefore, for the time being the money appropriated for those projects falling within the above category would be withheld until the necessary study could be made by the Corps of Engineers. I immediately had inquiries concerning Rough River, Jackson Cut Off, Markland Lock and Dam, Louisville Flood Wall Project and other projects of our sixteen which were in the Bill. In the first place the President signed the Bill, and under our law he has no right to withhold any money. Congress legislates and if this matter reached a test in court the Supreme Court would rule that the President's right to object should have been exercised by a veto. None of the Kentucky projects fall within the category set forth by the President due to the fact that all of our projects up for construction start have been properly surveyed and planned by the Corps of Engineers with the exact construction cost determined and the projects recommended as economically sound. Much newspaper publicity will be given to this matter within the next few days but after our long struggle for Rough River Reservoir and the fight which was

made for the other projects we certainly do not intend to lose any of same now.

Yesterday we suspended the rules and took up H.R. 7225, Social Security Amendments of 1955; S. 1855, a Bill to amend the Federal Airport Act; H.R. 6243, authorizing construction of nuclear merchant ship and H.R. 7201 Life Insurance Company Act of 1955. Under suspension of rules two-thirds of those Members voting must vote in the affirmative to suspend the rules and pass the bill. No rule is required and no amendments are permitted. I definitely am against this procedure and do not believe that any bill should be passed by Congress that is not subject to amendment on the floor.

Today we take up H.R. 7214, the Minimum Wage Bill. Under this Bill a rule was issued which provides that the Bill is subject to amendment and change as to the amount of minimum wage and subject to amendment for effective date of the new change in minimum wage. No other amendments are permitted. I believe that the minimum wage will be established at \$1.00. The Senate, by a voice vote, passed a Bill providing for \$1.00 minimum wage, which is a 25 cent increase over present minimum wage. The Senate has a bad habit of voice voting a great many "hot" measures which might have to be explained to the

people back home. In the House today you may rest assured that we will have a roll call vote.

President Eisenhower is in Geneva attending top level Big Four talks. Last night the president entertained with a dinner for the Russian Delegation.

On arriving in Geneva, the President stated that eleven years ago, as a military man, he arrived in Europe with an Army, Navy and Air Force with a single purpose, and that was to destroy Nazism. He further stated that all the circumstances of war surrounded that journey, but this time he came armed with something far more powerful, and that was the good will of America -- the great hopes of America -- the aspirations of America for peace. He stated that he would meet with the colleagues from other countries to see whether it is possible to find some road that will lead all the world into a more tranquil, better, fuller way of life. Our Chaplain in the House, the Reverend Braskamp, offered a beautiful prayer when the House convened Monday morning concerning the President's trip and the hope of the world for its success.

Several days ago the President signed the Military Appropriations Bill, and, in signing same, issued a statement

that the \$46,000,000 voted by Congress to prevent the President's cut of the Marine Corps from 215,000 men to 193,000 men would be impounded, and that Secretary of Defense Wilson and the President stated they would take another look at this matter. Here again we have the Executive Department, represented by the President, attempting to override legislation passed by Congress. The President knows full well that his method of dissatisfaction is by a veto, and that he cannot legally impound money, and refuse to expend same according to the law passed.

The Congressional Boxscore for major measures for the 84th Congress is not too bad. Both Houses have passed bills providing for Antitrust Penalties, Atomic Construction, Atomic Smuggling, Debt Limit Increase, Doctors Draft, Draft Extension, Farm Loan Interest, Foreign Aid Authorization, Military Construction, Military Reserves, Pay Raise, Federal, Pay Raise, Postal, Reciprocal Trade, Security Commission, Tax Windfall Repeal, Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, District of Columbia, Government Matters, Independent Offices, Interior, Labor-HEW, public Works, State-Justice-Judiciary, Treasury-Post Office.

July 20, 1955

We vote today on the Minimum Wage

Bill. An Amendment will be offered for 90 cents, and then the dollar provision will be voted upon.

The Big Four Conference now being held in Geneva temporarily set aside the German problem after President Eisenhower, in a very dramatic manner, stated that he was addressing his remarks to Defense Minister Zhukov who was one of the Russian Generals serving with the President during World War II, and Eisenhower stated that he was talking as one soldier to another, and he knew that Zhukov had always found every word that he said to be true. As one soldier to another, he stated America wanted peace and would never engage in an offensive war.

The Rules Committee and the Appropriations Committee are now slugging it out in the final days of the Session. The Chairman of the Rules Committee stated yesterday from the floor that the Appropriations Committee continued to hold star chamber proceedings, and that all of its hearings should be open to the public. Congressman Howard Smith, of Virginia, the Chairman of the Rules Committee, further stated that if there happened to be a witness the door is opened a little crack and you are permitted to slide in and say your little piece and slide out, but there are no public hearings. Our Chairman, Congressman

Cannon of Missouri, answered the gentleman by stating that the real reason why the Appropriations Committee does not hold open hearings is due to the fact that the Committee only has small hearing rooms, but hopes to get more space in the New House Office Building or extension of the Capitol. He also stated that open hearings give lobbyists a chance to come in and clutter up the Record with material that is of no value to the Committee.

July 21, 1955

The Federal Government went \$4,192,000,000 deeper into the red in the 1955 fiscal year that ended on June 30. This was \$1,000,000,000 higher than the fiscal 1954 deficit but less than half of the amount of the fiscal deficit of 1953.

Congressman Adam Powell of New York stopped the Military Reserve Bill with his antisegregation amendment and for a number of weeks it appeared that this legislation might have to go over until next year, due to the Congressman's persistence in offering this particular amendment. Congressman Vinson, our 41-year Member from Georgia was very much incensed over this procedure and as Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, said some right mean things

about our colored Congressman, Adam Powell. Congressman Powell is a Member of the Committee on Education and Labor and during a session of this particular Committee yesterday he offered an anti-segregation amendment to the Federal School Aid Bill and Representative Cleveland M. Bailey, 69 year old Democrat from West Virginia entered into a fist fight with Congressman Powell. Before the Members could stop the fight Bailey had hit Powell two or three times. Today on the Floor of the House we informed Mr. Vinson of Georgia that he should be ashamed of himself for having poor old Cleve Bailey from West Virginia to do his fighting for him.

Today in Geneva the United States is re-examining the Western European Collective Security Structure as a result of Russian indications that this would create a frame work in which Moscow would agree to German unification.

The House and Senate recently passed an election law for the District of Columbia with the right granted to Washington residents to vote for officials in their respective parties and delegates to the National Conventions.

Today in the House we passed H.R. 5614 amending the Communications Act of 1934 and H.R. 6373, a Bill extending the Mineral Program Act.