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HOUSE BILL REFERRED

The bill (H.R. 3801) to extend civil service Federal employees group life insurance and Federal employees health benefits coverage to U.S. nationals employed by the Federal Government, was read twice by its title and referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker had affixed his signature to the following enrolled bill and joint resolution:

H.R. 6077. An act to permit immediate retirement of certain Federal employees; and

H.J. Res. 296. Joint resolution to authorize the President to proclaim the last week of June 1973, as "National Autistic Children's Week."

The enrolled bill and joint resolution were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore.

THE JOURNAL

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the Journal of the proceedings of Monday, June 4, 1973, be dispensed with.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS DURING SENATE SESSION

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all committees may be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate today.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESOLUTION ON ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ADOPTED BY DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a resolution proposed in the Democratic conference on yesterday by the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. MONDALE) and cosponsored by the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. PROXMIER), and agreed to unanimously by the Democratic conference, be inserted at this point in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the resolution was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RESOLUTION ON ECONOMIC STABILIZATION

Whereas, prices are now rising at the fastest rate in 22 years—wholesale prices at an annual rate of 21.1 percent in the first quarter, and consumer prices at an annual rate of 8.6 percent;

Whereas, corporate profits in the first quarter soared 25.9 percent above those in the comparable period last year;

Whereas, executive compensation rose by 13.5 percent in 1972;

Whereas, workers' real wages—after inflation and taxes—are lower now than they were six months ago;

Whereas, Phase III has been an unmitigated failure;

Whereas, the Administration has failed to take effective action to control runaway prices and profits;

Now therefore be it resolved by the Democratic Majority of the Senate that:

(1) An amendment imposing a 90-day freeze on prices, profits, rents, wages and salaries, and consumer interest rates should be attached to the first appropriate bill coming before the Senate.

(2) This amendment should direct the President to use the 90 days to establish—in consultation with Congress, labor, farmers, business, and consumers—a long-run program to control inflation that is firm, fair and equitable and takes into account the fact that workers' wages have fallen behind in the inflationary cycle.

ARMS AND ARROGANCE: THE UNITED STATES IN ASIA

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an editorial from the Los Angeles Times for January 5, 1973, entitled "Arms and Arrogance: The United States in Asia," be incorporated in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ARMS AND ARROGANCE: THE UNITED STATES IN ASIA

In a recent four-day encounter in Vietnam between Communist and South Vietnamese forces, the Communists fired 896 mortar rounds and 10 artillery shells, the South Vietnamese 6,074 artillery shells. And this was just one incident in a growing record of the disproportionate use of firepower by the Saigon forces.

So it is not surprising that reporters in South Vietnam now report a cutback of one-third in the flow of artillery and heavy weapons ammunition from the United States. First indications are that the cutback is producing a decline in the level of fighting.

The development makes two things clear: The cease-fire has not ended hostilities. And the level of hostilities remains directly proportional to the flow of arms and supplies from outside.

Whether the cease-fire is to work better may depend to a major degree on the renewed conversations in Paris Wednesday between Henry A. Kissinger and Le Duc Tho. But the experience with the ammunition supply suggests that supply restraint may be of equal importance. Some military officials now concede that a total cutoff of American military aid would make a major contribution to the diminution of battle without forcing defeat on Saigon.

The difficulty in controlling the American military on such matters has been illustrated, however, by the revelation of a new violation of the law in the Pentagon.

Fund transfer regulations were suspended by the Defense Department last November under provisions that require immediate notification of Congress. The notification came four months later, long after the funds had been spent on stepped-up military activities that included the massive bombing of North and South Vietnam by the Americans.

It was an "administrative oversight," the Pentagon said, while acknowledging that deficit spending is continuing in Southeast Asia.

It seems more likely to us that it was "administrative arrogance"—more of the same Pentagon-knows-best and President-knows-best business that has violated the constitutional limits on warmaking and prolonged the error of America's military intervention in Indochina.

Whatever it was, it makes all the more urgent approval by Congress of the strict congressional controls over all aspects of American military action in Indochina.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Does the acting minority leader desire recognition?

Mr. GRIFFIN. No, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senator from Michigan (Mr. GRIFFIN) is recognized for not to exceed 15 minutes.

Mr. GRIFFIN. Mr. President, I yield such time as he may desire to the Senator from Ohio (Mr. SAXBE).

THE ENERGY SHORTAGE

Mr. SAXBE. Mr. President, I take the floor at this time to comment on the pending legislation because there seems to be some misconception about what we hope to achieve by this proposal. The present bill is filled with good wishes for all concerned relating to the energy shortage.

It is a bill that I find has very little power to help those who are at present suffering from the energy shortage. I have had the experience in my State within the last few days of people coming in and saying, "We have taken care of the taxi fleet in Cleveland, and we have 2½ million gallons of gasoline for the farmers." In other words, we have no priorities in the present energy shortage. As a result, it would seem that out of the goodness of their hearts, the oil companies are taking care of some of the people who need the gasoline production in this country. At the same time, we have an unlimited supply of gasoline for recreational use—boats and pleasure vehicles—and for all kinds of activities of a frivolous nature. But the farmers are getting their supplies on a day-to-day basis, even though they are under considerable pressure to get their crops in.

What this points up to me is that the present bill, with its good wishes, is not going to do the job. Sooner or later we are going to have to come to grips with priorities for the use of gasoline during the present short supply of energy. It will come as a shock to many people. We cannot take care of many of the frivolous things during the present energy shortage. It seems to me the first thing we have to do is insure that those who are producing wealth in this country have the first access. I do not mean just the farmers, because if we get into an argument as to who is entitled to the most gasoline, whether it be industry or whether it be the farmer, the debate will be pointless.

What I mean to say is that there is a large percentage of gasoline that is wasted in this country. But there are people who need not only gasoline but diesel fuel and the lubricants that are necessary if we are going to continue in the business of producing wealth and to stay in competition with the rest of the world, because the balance of payments depends on our production of wealth in this country.

Also, it is rather disconcerting to me to find people talking about increasing the tax on gasoline as a method of holding down the consumption of gasoline. That is a nonproductive type of thing. It seems to me we are loading it onto the