REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEINWIS, from the Committee on Appropriations, with amendments:

By Mr. JACKSON, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, without amendment:
S. 2358. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to sell reserved phosphate interests of the United States in certain lands located in the State of Florida to the record owners of such lands (Rept. No. 1701):
H. R. 3104. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Plumas County, Calif., to C. A. Lundy, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 1698).
H. R. 6390. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain lands in Inyo County, Calif., to the personal representative of the estate of Olywn L. Morris,
Dolores G. Morris, George D. Ishmael, and Verna H. Ishmael (Rept. No. 1997):
H. R. 14764. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to reissue a certain oil and gas lease (Rept. No. 1700); and
H. R. 16813. An act to transfer to the Atomic Energy Commission complete administrative control of approximately 36 acres of public domain land located in the Otowi section near Los Alamos County (Rept. No. 1699).

By Mr. SIMPSON, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, without amendment:
S. 24. A bill to provide for reimbursement to the State of Wyoming for improvements made on certain lands in Sweetwater County, Wyo., and for which such lands revert to the United States (Rept. No. 1699).  

BILLS INTRODUCED

Bills were introduced, read the first time, and, by unanimous consent, the second time, and referred as follows:

By Mr. MONDALE (for himself, Mr. BRUCKNER, Mr. MOSS, and Mr. YARBOROUGH):
S. 3898. A bill to establish a commission to investigate the efficiency and effectiveness of the operations and methods of operation of the executive branch of the Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Operations.  
(See the remarks of Mr. MONDALE when he introduced the above bill, which appear under a separate heading.)

By Mr. RICHOFF:
S. 3890. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide payments for optometrists' services under the program of supplementary medical insurance benefits for the aged; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOLDON (for himself and Mr. DOMINICK) (by request):
S. 3892. A bill to permit a compact or agreement between the several States, for uniform treatment of certain matters related to taxation; to the Committee on Judiciary.

By Mr. CASE:
S. 3893. A bill for the relief of Benjamin De Velilla; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCARTHY:
S. 3894. A bill to authorize the Commodity Credit Corporation to purchase hay and make it available for use in feeding livestock in disaster and other emergency areas, and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make cost assistance payments to livestockmen on hay purchased to feed livestock in areas affected by catastrophes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.  
(See the remarks of Mr. MCCARTHY when he introduced the above bill, which appear under a separate heading.)

By Mr. MONROONEY:
Address by Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien at the dedication of the Wheeling, W. Va., Post Office Building, Saturday, October 1, 1966, together with a program of events of the dedication ceremonies.

LIMITATION ON STATEMENTS DURING THE TRANSACTION OF ROUTINE MORNING BUSINESS

On request of Mr. MANSFIELD, and by unanimous consent, statements during the transaction of routine morning business were ordered limited to 3 minutes.

NARCOTIC ADDICT TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION

Mr. MANSFIELD. Madam President, yesterday the Senate passed the bill, H. R. 9167, which, if enacted, will establish the badly needed machinery to commence rehabilitation procedures for drug addiction. In his outstanding presentation of the measure the senior Senator from Arkansas [Mr. McCLELLAN] pointed out that by combining the flexible tools of medicine and psychiatry, reeducation and job training, and family and neighborhood supervisory services, we will serve immensely to enable the addict to lead a normal and productive life, resisting the stresses which initially led him to drugs.

I wish to commend Senator McCLELLAN highly for the splendid manner in which he, more than anyone, assured the success of this proposal. In doing so he has performed an outstanding public service and one which he can add to a long list of magnificent achievements.

Joining Senator McCLELLAN to assure this great success yesterday was the senior Senator from New York [Mr. JAVITS] and his colleague [Mr. KENNEDY] who, as we all know, represent a State which is leading the way in the field of treatment for the narcotic addict. Also to be commended for supporting this measure and any other that will serve the people and persuade views is the senior Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DORS]. All of us know how long and hard he worked in helping to bring this measure before the Senate.

Finally, the senior Senator from Maryland [Mr. BREWER] and the junior Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY], are to be thanked for the very sincere and persuasive views they offered on this proposal in such a typically strong and articulate manner.

EXECUTIVE ORGANIZATION REVIEW COMMISSION

Mr. MONDALE. Madam President, on behalf of myself and Senators BURDICK, MOSS, and YARBOROUGH, I introduce, for appropriate reference, a bill to establish a periodic Executive Organization Review Commission.

There is a definite need today for a new Hoover Commission. In the 11 years since the second Hoover Commission presented its final report, the Federal budget has grown by almost $50 billion; Federal civilian employment has risen from 2,324,000 to 2,806,000; and we...
There have undergone a continuing proliferation of departments, commissions, bureaus, boards, offices, independent establishments, and other executive agencies.

According to the annual report of the Government Operations Committee on "Organization of Federal Executive Departments and Agencies," there were at the beginning of this year some 53 so-called independent agencies in the executive branch, in addition to the 11 Cabinet departments. This represents an increase from 46 independent agencies 10 years ago. But the actual change has been much greater. We have seen within that period the creation of at least 44 new agencies — some only temporary — and the abolition or transfer of a number only slightly smaller.

The creation of each of these agencies may have been justified in terms of its own individual mission. But when we step back and look at the whole Federal structure, we see numerous policy areas where program responsibility is scattered widely through the executive establishment. There is education, where according to an analysis submitted in support of the President's 1967 budget:

Ten Cabinet departments and more than 15 other government agencies tabled education, training, and related programs as an integral part of their agency's mission.

Or we can look at consumer protection, a field in which I have a special interest — here, according to one recent report, there are 33 Federal agencies engaged in 296 consumer protection activities. Some of these activities deal with urban affairs — even after the creation of a new Cabinet Department of Housing and Urban Development — is still enormous.

And as we all are aware, the magnificent work of this 89th Congress has contributed to the growth of our Federal Establishment. We have enacted vast new programs, like Medicare. We have multiplied Federal support of education. We have taken bold new steps in civil rights, in fighting air and water pollution, in completely reshaping food for peace, in agriculture and rural development, in meeting the crisis of our cities, and in other fields too numerous and too widespread to recount here today.

But, inevitably, we have thought of each program mainly in terms of how it would meet a particular need, how it would solve a particular problem in a particular way. We have not given enough attention to how everything fits together. And we have not acted to assure that we have an overall Federal structure which can really do the job we have called on it to do, and do this job in an effective and economical manner as possible.

A new Hoover-type commission can help us chart a course to adapt to unanticipated future needs. But my proposal would guarantee that a new Hoover-type commission can no longer be treated as a one-shot affair. Our Government will serve long enough to contract out special investigations to scholars and other independent investigators, and receive their reports in time for careful consideration.

And most important of all, the Commission would be given a broad mandate. It could hire a substantial staff, headed by an executive director. It could draw on experts from many walks of national life. It would hold hearings, have general access to Federal records, and make use of the most up-to-date information. And as have so many of my colleagues, Senator McClellan and Aiken, sat on these Commissions. Many others among today's Senators were present in this body while these Commissions were active. They know the record of the Commission's recommendations, 72 percent were adopted. For the second, the score was 64 percent.

Among the major accomplishments were creation of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the General Services Administration, major reorganizations in State and Defense, modernization of Federal budgeting, improvement of the Federal career service — and the saving of many billions of dollars.

Yet, despite these achievements, we have let more than 11 years elapse since the second Hoover Commission submitted its report.

This is not to imply, of course, that these 11 years have seen no action on this report.

In the Executive Office of the President, the Bureau of the Budget has a continuing responsibility for promoting organizational efficiency. The General Accounting Office oversees program operations for the Congress.

The Ribicoff subcommittee has already made a breakthrough in the field of auto safety, and it has now turned its attention to a review of the range and adequacy of our programs to meet the crisis of urban areas.

I hope one of these efforts will continue. Yet there is still, I strongly feel, a need for a periodic, comprehensive review of the entire range of Federal organization, a review conducted by a bipartisan, high-level body independent of the executive and the legislative branches, so that it can periodically give us a fresh, new look, a review which a new Hoover Commission can best provide.

My bill would establish such a commission.

Unlike earlier such legislation, my bill would recognize that executive reorganization is no longer a one-shot affair. Our Government will continue to grow, just as our Nation is growing. If we do not take a periodic hard look at its overall operation, we may one day be confronted with a bureaucratic tangle that it is impossible to unravel. For, in the words of Harry S. Truman:

The Improvement of the organization of government is a continuous and never-ending process.

To provide such a periodical look, my bill explicitly calls for the appointment of a new Commission every 10 years. Should the Congress feel that an organizational overhaul is urgently needed before that time, it could create a new Commission sooner. Thus the time period between studies would not be rigid, unable to be adapted to unanticipated future needs. But my proposal would guarantee that a new Hoover-type commission to the contrary, we would have an overall organizational review at least once a decade.

The Commission would serve 12 distinguished citizens — 2 from each House of Congress, 2 from the executive branch, and 6 from private life.

To insure bipartisanship, no more than 6 of the 12 members could belong to the same political party.

The Commission would serve approximately 30 months, submitting its report not later than March 1 of the third year after its establishment. This would allow enough time for an organized, systematic, and thorough review.

The Commission would submit periodic reports on its findings and recommendations as it deems appropriate, and then a final report summarizing previous proposals and making final recommendations. Having submitted this report, it would cease to exist, until its successor was appointed.

In the interim between Commissions, this bill would provide for the Comptroller General to maintain records of the action by the Congress and the executive branch on the last Commission's recommendations. The records and powers of the commission that has completed its work would, according to established procedures, be deposited in the National Archives, where they would, I am assured, be available to the public at large.

The Commission would have broad powers. It could hire a substantial staff, headed by an executive director. It could draw on experts from many walks of national life. It would hold hearings, have general access to Federal records, and make use of the most up-to-date information. And the Commission that has completed its work would serve long enough to contract out special investigations to scholars and other independent investigators, and receive their reports in time for careful consideration.

And most important of all, the Commission would be given a broad mandate. It could hire a substantial staff, headed by an executive director. It could draw on experts from many walks of national life. It would hold hearings, have general access to Federal records, and make use of the most up-to-date information. And the Commission that has completed its work would serve long enough to contract out special investigations to scholars and other independent investigators, and receive their reports in time for careful consideration.

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This must be one of the paramount objectives of our federal system. And so any executive organization review commission should not aim only to eliminate nonessential and duplicated services, and to reduce administrative costs, vital though this is. It should also study concrete ways to make Federal agencies more responsive to the needs of individuals and communities at the local level.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of this bill be reprinted at this point in the Record, together with a short summary of its major provisions.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore

The bill (S. 3888) to establish a commission to investigate, in the most comprehensive way possible, how the policies and programs of the executive branch of the Government are accomplished.

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The summary presented by Mr. Mondale is as follows:

A SHORT SUMMARY OF A BILL TO ESTABLISH AN INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION REVIEW COMMISSION

1. Periodical Establishment of Commission—on or before September 1, 1967, and every tenth year thereafter, a 12-member Executive Organization Review Commission shall be established, composed of two Senators appointed by the President of the Senate, two Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, branch chosen by the President of the United States, and six members chosen by the President, Vice President, and Speaker acting in agreement. No more than six of the members shall belong to the same political party.

2. Functions—the Commission’s role is similar to that of the earlier Hoover Commission. The executive director, the executive director, and the executive director, of the Commission is authorized and directed to cooperate with each Commission and to furnish all information available to the extent permitted by law.

3. Powers—the Commission may hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, obtain information from federal agencies, contract out particular research, and prepare and transmit information to the Congress. It may make such recommendations as it deems appropriate, and shall transmit its final report to the Congress not later than March of the third year after its appointment. Sixty days after submitting the final report, it shall cease to exist, to be re-established with new membership ten years after its original appointment.

PAYMENT FOR OPTOMETRISTS' SERVICES UNDER PROGRAM OF SUPPLEMENTARY MEDICAL INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR THE AGED

Mr. RIBICOFF. Madam President, I introduce, for appropriate reference, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide payment for optometrists' services under the program of supplementary medical insurance benefits for the aged.

The bill I am introducing today is a simple amendment to iron out a very small wrinkle in the historic Medicare Act passed by the 89th Congress. It would neither add nor take away from the existing program, but it would correct an oversight that we believe to be unfairly discriminatory.

The provision of optometry is accepted by the Department as a legitimate and essential health profession which is performing highly meritorious services as a result of this law. The profession of optometry is a unique service that is performed by optometrists.

He also wrote in the same letter:

The Department agrees that the American public has a genuine need for freedom of choice in the selection of a practitioner to care for vision problems.

From this letter it appears certain to me that in this instance the administration is clearly in agreement with the intent of the Senate, and that is as it should be. I hope we may in the future be able to carry out this intent under title XVIII and, accordingly, to them, they cannot because of the way the law is drafted.

There is a new interest in the total quality of life rather than merely the length of life, and in the positive elements of good health for all Americans over 65. Those who are in their golden