

ceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Without objection, the Journal stands approved.

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Arrington, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment, a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 594. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of the two Houses on Monday, August 12, 1974, to receive a message from the President of the United States.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 15427. An act to amend the Rail Passenger Service Act of 1970 to provide financial assistance to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 15842. An act to increase compensation for District of Columbia policemen, firemen, and teachers; to increase annuities payable to retired teachers in the District of Columbia; to establish an equitable tax on real property in the District of Columbia; to provide for additional revenue for the District of Columbia; and for other purposes.

REMARKS BY GERALD R. FORD UPON BEING SWORN IN AS 38TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. RHODES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD at this point the remarks of President Gerald R. Ford following his taking the oath of office as the 38th President of the United States.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

The remarks are as follows:

REMARKS BY GERALD R. FORD UPON BEING SWORN IN AS 38TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE EAST ROOM, THE WHITE HOUSE

Mr. Chief Justice, my dear friends, my fellow Americans:

The oath that I have taken is the same oath that was taken by George Washington and by every President under the Constitution. But I assume the Presidency under extraordinary circumstances, never before experienced by Americans. This is an hour of history that troubles our minds and hurts our hearts.

Therefore, I feel it is my first duty to make an unprecedented compact with my countrymen. Not an inaugural address, not a fire-side chat, not a campaign speech. Just a little straight talk among friends. And I intend it to be the first of many.

I am acutely aware that you have not elected me as your President by your ballots, and so I ask you to confirm me as your President with your prayers. And I hope that such prayers will also be the first of many.

If you have not chosen me by secret ballot, neither have I gained office by any secret promises. I have not campaigned either for the Presidency or the Vice Presidency. I have not subscribed to any partisan platform. I am indebted to no man, and only to one woman—my dear wife—as I begin this very difficult job.

I have not sought this enormous responsibility, but I will not shirk it. Those who nominated me and confirmed me as Vice President were my friends and are my friends. They were of both parties, elected by all the people and acting under the Constitution in their name. It is only fitting then that I should pledge to them and to you that I will be the President of all the people.

Thomas Jefferson said the people are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty. And down the years, Abraham Lincoln renewed this American article of faith asking, "Is there any better way or equal hope in the world?"

I intend, on Monday next, to request of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate the privilege of appearing before the Congress to share with my former colleagues and with you, the American people, my views on the priority business of the Nation and to solicit your views and their views. And may I say to the Speaker and the others, if I could meet with you right after these remarks, I would appreciate it.

Even though this is late in an election year, there is no way we can go forward except together and no way anybody can win except by serving the people's urgent needs. We cannot stand still or slip backwards. We must go forward now together.

To the peoples and the governments of all friendly nations, and I hope that could encompass the whole world, I pledge an uninterrupted and sincere search for peace. America will remain strong and united, but its strength will remain dedicated to the safety and sanity of the entire family of man, as well as to our own precious freedom.

I believe that truth is the glue that holds Government together, not only our Government, but civilization itself. That bond, though strained, is unbroken at home and abroad.

In all my public and private acts as your President, I expect to follow my instincts of openness and candor with full confidence that honesty is always the best policy in the end.

My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over.

Our Constitution works; our great Republic is a Government of laws and not of men. Here the people rule. But there is a higher power, by whatever name we honor Him, who ordains not only righteousness but love, not only justice but mercy.

As we bind up the internal wounds of Watergate, more painful and more poisonous than those of foreign wars, let us restore the golden rule to our political process, and let brotherly love purge our hearts of suspicion and of hate.

In the beginning, I asked you to pray for me. Before closing, I ask again your prayers, for Richard Nixon and for his family. May our former President, who brought peace to millions, find it for himself. May God bless and comfort his wonderful wife and daughters, whose love and loyalty will forever be a shining legacy to all who bear the lonely burdens of the White House.

I can only guess at those burdens, although I have witnessed at close hand the tragedies that befell three Presidents and the lesser trials of others.

With all the strength and all the good sense I have gained from life, with all the confidence my family, my friends, and my dedicated staff impart to me, and with the good will of countless Americans I have encountered in recent visits to 40 States, I now solemnly reaffirm my promise I made to you last December 6: To uphold the Constitution, to do what is right as God gives me to see the right, and to do the very best I can for America.

God helping me, I will not let you down. Thank you.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 12281, TO CONTINUE SUSPENSION OF DUTIES ON CERTAIN FORMS OF COPPER

Mr. BURKE of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 12281) to continue until the close of June 30, 1975, the suspension of duties on certain forms of copper, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and request a conference with the Senate thereon.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts? The Chair hears none, and appoints the following conferees: Messrs. MILLS, ULLMAN, BURKE of Massachusetts, SCHNEEBELI, and COLLIER.

PERMISSION TO FILE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2, PENSION REFORM

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the managers have until midnight tonight to file a conference report on H.R. 2, to provide for pension reform.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

EXPLANATION CONCERNING CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 15544

(Mr. STEED asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEED. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday of last week, August 6, the conferees met and reached agreement on the Treasury, Postal Service and Executive Office appropriation bill (H.R. 15544). Conference report No. 93-1262 was filed and has been printed. Certain amendments of the Senate were reported in technical disagreement concerning personnel in the Executive Office section of the bill. The House conferees were prepared to offer motions to the House to recede and concur with the Senate amendments with amendments which would conform the appropriation bill to the pending legislation (H.R. 14715) clarifying such employment. That legislation had passed both Houses, had been reported by the conferees, and the House had adopted the conference report.

Subsequent to that time, however, the Senate voted to table the conference report. Even though the Senate has now reconsidered, and under unanimous consent has sent the legislative bill back to conference, the conferees on the appropriation bill feel that it would be advisable to modify the wording of the motions on three Senate amendments in disagreement on the appropriation bill to take account of the action on the legislative bill.

The Senate conferees have agreed to moved to concur in the amendments as modified.

The conference report is scheduled for consideration in the House tomorrow, August 13. At that time I will, of course, explain each motion in whatever detail is desired by the Members.