SENATOR JORDAN REPORTS

EDUCATION AND HEALTH. Probably the most far-reaching programs acted on were in the fields of public education and medical care and research. For the first time in history, the Congress approved a program of federal assistance to elementary and secondary grade school education. North Carolina will get an unusually large share of the funds and it will afford us the opportunity to greatly improve our public schools in many areas of the state. Another important education program approved by the Congress is one which provides assistance to higher education, including teaching fellowships and scholarship grants to exceptionally needy students.

Closely related to the broad effort to improve education is a program setting up a special cooperative effort by hospitals, medical schools, and physicians to launch a crash program against heart disease, cancer and stroke. Congress also authorized medical care for elderly to be financed through the Social Security Program, and this new approach is already creating widespread interest among all of our citizens.

AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY. Both tobacco and cotton, the two commodities more important than any others to agriculture and industry in North Carolina, received priority attention by this session of the Congress. In the past year, under a new law enacted by the Congress, tobacco farmers have instituted the revolutionary acreage-poundage program for tobacco. This new approach to the tobacco program, in my opinion, has saved tobacco, and we are now completing one of the most successful tobacco seasons ever. We are reducing surpluses and prices are the best in history. An equally important program affecting cotton was approved and under it we will continue to protect the income of cotton producers and at the same time have one-price cotton for textile mills. The one-price cotton program will be in effect for four years, and I am convinced that it is the key to a prosperous cotton economy including all of those involved in it from the farmers to the people who work in the textile mills.

WATER. In a number of ways 1965 is the year of the real breakthrough in water resources development in North Carolina. Work is continuing at a rapid pace on the New Hope Dam in the Cape Fear River basin and Congress has just approved $100,000 to begin the urgently needed Falls of the Neuse Dam on the Neuse River. These two key projects, along with a number of other navigation and flood control projects, are moving along rapidly and they will make an outstanding contribution to the economy of our state. We also made a great deal of progress in solving the water supply and sewage treatment problems in both the rural and urban areas. Newly initiated programs will help clear up the heavy backlog of urgently needed water and sewage projects throughout the state. A number of new programs have been authorized and I suggest that the urban areas which have water and sewer problems contact the State Stream Sanitation Committee in Raleigh for suggestions and assistance, and the rural areas with similar problems contact the Farmers Home Administration, also located in Raleigh.

GENERAL ECONOMY. During the year the Congress kept a close eye on the condition of our economy. There is strong evidence that our economy is in its healthiest state in history. This does not mean that we do not have soft spots and some real problems in a number of areas, but generally speaking business has been good, unemployment is lower than it has been for a number of years, plant expansion is on the increase, and the general outlook is favorable.

VIETNAM. The war in Vietnam reached its most critical stage during the year, but there is new hope in Washington and elsewhere that the conflict has taken a turn for the better. It is still a very serious situation and American citizens are losing their lives daily in an effort to turn back communism. I am most hopeful that by continuing our firm policy we will in due course move this conflict from the battleground to the conference table and find a peaceful solution.

BIG ISSUE. In terms of the amount of mail I received and expressions through direct contacts with people, one of the biggest issues coming before the Congress was the question of repealing Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act, a provision which legalizes state right-to-work laws. For many years I have felt that it is absolutely essential to preserve our right-to-work laws and I was, therefore, pleased when the Senate defeated efforts to repeal Section 14(b). This, no doubt, will be a major issue which will come before the Congress again next year.

It is impossible in the space here to review or even mention all of the actions taken during this session of the Congress. I hope that if there are any questions you have about the things mentioned in this article, or about other matters before the Congress which are not included in this, you will write B. Everett Jordan, Room 6225, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20510.

QUICK CRANBERRY ORANGE COFFEE RING

1/4 cup butter or margarine, ½ cup light brown sugar, ½ cup halved fresh cranberries, 1 teaspoon grated orange peel, 8 Brown 'n' Serve Rolls.

1. Melt 2 tablespoons of the butter in a 5½ cut (2¼-inch) ring mold. Sprinkle 1-4 cup of the brown sugar over bottom; top with cranberries.

2. Combine remaining butter brown sugar and orange peel. Mix well.

3. Split rolls to but not through bottom crust; fill with orange-brown sugar mixture.

4. Arrange rolls, cut side down, over cranberries in pan.

5. Bake in hot oven (400 deg. F.) about 15 minutes or until well-browned. Cool for a few minutes until loosening sides; invert pan onto serving plate. Let stand a few minutes; remove pan. Serve coffee ring upside down.

Makes 4-6 servings.

Featured product: BROWN 'N' SERVE ROLLS.

Of Thrift Needed

Thrift is an American tradition we all remember. We'd probably remember it even better if we practiced it more regularly today. But even if we'd become backsliders ourselves, most of us would like our children to be exposed to its values and lessons.

That's why the Treasury's School Savings program, which operates in many of our schools, is something to be encouraged. This is a plan by which youngsters buy U. S. Savings Stamps—convertible, once enough have been accumulated, into Savings Bonds—on a given day each week in the classroom.

Savings Stamps, which are available for a dime, a quarter, or larger amounts, are sold at post offices, too, and many children continue their purchases right through the vacation months. But the heart of the program is the classroom aspect, which makes this patriotic thrift plan part of the teaching process.

Nobody has ever pretended that savings is easy. But in the School Savings program the child has plenty of help. His teacher and his parents (who may be bond buyers themselves) are his partners. So are the volunteers, both individuals and groups, who help operate the program and thus make it easier for the school to offer it.

People differ. Some object to a fan dancer, and others to the fan. — Post, Washington.

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