

THE YANCEY RECORD
 BURNSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

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EDWARD A. YUZIUK - EDITOR & PUBLISHER
 CAROLYN R. YUZIUK - ASSOCIATE EDITOR
 MISS PATSY BRIGGS - OFFICE MANAGER

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SENATOR
SAM ERVIN
 ☆ SAYS ☆



Major Issues Still Unresolved

WASHINGTON -- Congress approaches the final months of the session with a number of major issues on its calendar. This is not unusual when one considers the magnitude of the problems awaiting consideration. Among the unfinished business are most of the money bills, an omnibus farm bill, a package of environmental controls, several consumer protection measures, a trade-tariff bill, a handful of Administration tax requests, and a controversial family assistance welfare proposal.

At this stage, many who are impatient with the progress of certain legislation seek to point to the "slow pace" of Congress. It should be noted that the first months of any session are necessarily devoted to hearings on legislation and that this is an essential part of the consideration of any important bill. Moreover, the first months of this session were devoted to many other vital issues concerning our nation. For weeks, the Senate debated the qualifications of three nominees before it confirmed Justice Blackmun for a seat on the Supreme Court. Later, this body debated our Southeast Asian policies and more recently it has conducted a review of our defense posture. While I have disagreed with many of my colleagues concerning their views on these subjects, still I consider these debates to be of the utmost importance since they are responsive to the concerns of the people.

The status of some of the major measures still pending on the Congressional calendar is as follows:

The President's package of environmental bills has received hearings by the Senate and House Public Works Committees. Thereafter, the House has passed measures extending the Clean Air Act for three years and the Solid Waste Disposal Act through fiscal 1973. The Senate Public Works Committee has reported favorably the Resource Recovery Act of 1970, a measure extending and expanding Federal solid waste programs for four years through fiscal 1974. Prospects for the passage of this legislation depend on resolving a conflict of opinions as to the best means of solving our environmental problems.

Consumer legislation is receiving much attention by the Congress. The Senate Commerce Committee recently reported a bill to permit consumers to join together in lawsuits against sellers who engage in deceptive practices and to recover money damages from them. Senate and House Government Operations Committees have been considering functional legislation to establish a consumer protection agency. It appears likely that Congress will enact some legislation on this subject either this year or next year.

The Omnibus Farm Bill, which recently passed the House, is now under consideration by the Senate Agriculture Committee. The President's revised welfare proposal, which has been undergoing a critical review by the Senate Finance Committee, now appears likely to come to the Senate floor before adjournment. Even so, the bill to provide for a minimum annual payment to welfare recipients remains in doubt, since any Senate-passed bill would probably have to be passed on again by the House which approved its version in mid-April. New consumer taxes requested by the President also remain in doubt.

One of the most important bills yet to be acted on is the trade-tariff bill to establish quotas on foreign goods coming into this country. Congressional support of this legislation appears to be strong with the prospects that action may be favorable on such a bill in the remaining days of the session.

Mrs. Pate, Mrs. McInturff Get Degrees

Priming Thursday for a ceremony they've waited 37 years for were two grandmothers from the Bald Creek Community in Yancey County: Mrs. Norma Robertson Pate (left) and Mrs. Ila Phillips McInturff. At Thursday night commencement at Mars Hill College, they and 60 others received bachelor's degrees. Neighbors and classmates since childhood, the two women graduated together in 1933 from Bald Creek School and began their college days together at the old Asheville Normal School. But the Depression forced both the women to drop out. They've had to squeeze in their schooling between raising families-- Mrs. Pate has four children and three grandchildren and Mrs. McInturff has three children and six grandchildren--and teaching school. Mrs. Pate has taught

26 years and is presently a kindergarten teacher at Bee Log Elementary; and Mrs. McInturff has taught 20 years and is a

reading teacher at Bald Creek Elementary. Both earned a bachelor of arts degree in elementary education.



Photo by Walter Smith

Yancey Grandmothers Graduate

Church Singing

The Rebels Creek Baptist Church in Mitchell County near Bakersville is having a gospel singing Saturday night, August 29th at 7:30 p. m. All singers and the public are invited to attend and take part.

AUGUST

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