

Washington Report

— By —

CONGRESSMAN WALTER B. JONES

The 93rd Congress officially opened at 12 noon on January 3, 1973 with 69 new Members. This includes three from the State of North Carolina, Republican Jim Martin of the 9th District, Charles Rose of the 7th and Ike Andrews of the 4th, both of whom are Democrats.

At the beginning of every new Congress there is a certain amount of sentiment for those who are becoming Members for the first time. Usually they are accompanied by relatives and friends, and it is an occasion which I am sure most Members never forget.

Numerically, the House is composed of 243 Democrats and 192 Republicans. On Tuesday the Democratic Caucus was held to nominate officers to be submitted to the full Congress the next day.

Once again the Honorable Carl Albert was elected as Speaker, and on a note of sadness, Representative Tip O'Neill was elected as Majority Leader to succeed the missing Hale Boggs of Louisiana.

Next in importance is the position known as the "whip" which in effect is the Assistant Majority Leader. In the past, the Speaker and the Majority Leader have had the authority to name one to this position without a vote of the caucus.

Efforts were made to change this and permit an election rather than a personal selection; these efforts were in vain, and so the system remains unchanged.

At this time this position has not been filled, but it is generally believed that Representative John McFall of California will be given this position.

Also in the caucus a controversial resolution concerning the Vietnam War was approved by a vote of 154 to 75. This motion recommends that the House of Representatives pass a resolution cutting all funds in Southeast Asia if the Vietnam War is not ended by a certain date.

It remains to see whether the House will approve this resolution or reject it. At the moment there is strong opposition to further continuation

of our involvement in Vietnam.

For several years the President has insisted that Congress not enact such legislation in order that negotiations may continue, but unless the peace negotiations are successful in the very near future, I predict that Congress will indeed pass legislation attempting to end the Vietnam involvement.

On Saturday, the House met briefly to canvass the Electoral votes of the past Presidential election. This is just another part of our antiquated system of electing the President.

Of great interest here on Capitol Hill is the proceedings being brought by several members of the Senate led by Senator Sam Ervin contesting the legality of the President's right to withhold appropriated funds which had been previously approved by the Congress.

You will recall in recent days

MIRROR MORSELS

One thing only has been lent to youth and age in common, and that's discontent.—Matthew Arnold.

The essential problem is how to govern a large-scale world with small-scale minds.—Dr. Alfred Zimmern.

such vital programs, particularly in the field of agriculture, have been suspended by withholding funds which had already been approved.

This Presidential practice has been in effect since the days of Thomas Jefferson and each President has exercised this prerogative, but there is a very serious question as to whether in the terms of the Constitution they have this Administrative power.

It will be most interesting to see what the Courts do with these proceedings, hopefully a decision will be made at an early date.

The morn is up again, the dewy morn, with breath all incense, and with cheek all bloom, laughing the clouds away with playful scorn, and glowing into day.—Lord Byron.

They only deserve a monument who do not need one; that is, who have raised themselves a monument in the mind and memories of men.—William Hazlitt.

Money and time are the heaviest burdens of life, and the unhappiest of all mortals are those who have more of either than they know how to use.—Samuel Johnson.

A man finds himself seven years older the day after his marriage.—Bacon.

Music, of all the liberal arts has the greatest influence over the passions, and is that to which the legislator ought to give the greatest encouragement.—Napoleon.

The true motives of our actions, like the real pipes of an organ, are usually concealed; but the gilded and hollow pretext is pompously placed in the front for show.—Caleb C. Coiton.

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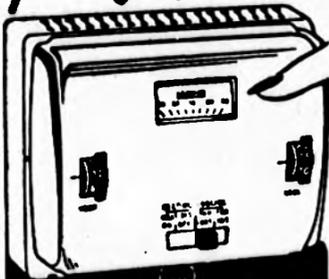
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