

Washington Report

— By —
CONGRESSMAN WALTER B. JONES

This week the congress was in recess observing Lincoln's Birthday, therefore there is no Congressional action to report. Many of you have expressed interest in why the recent Presidential Inauguration was held on Saturday, January 20. Prior to 1937 the official date for Presidential Inaugurations was March 4. In 1932 Congress approved a Constitutional

amendment, No. 20, which was finally approved by the necessary number of states and ratified February 6, 1933; thus, the first January 20 Inauguration took place in 1937 for President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The reason for the change is that the earlier Inauguration date made the Congressional and Presidential terms coincide more closely together.

Although the President is required to report to the Congress from time to time on the "state of the Union," his method of doing so is left to his discretion. Some of you have raised the question of President Nixon's failure to deliver his State of the Union message in person to the Congress; however, until President Woodrow Wilson, 11 State of the Union messages were sent to the Congress. President Wilson broke that precedent and used the delivery of the message as a public relations tool with the Congress. Thereafter, messages were personally delivered; however, it is a matter of record that President Franklin Roosevelt exercised the written message on three occasions. Then in 1956, President Eisenhower did not deliver his message in person because of a heart attack.

I have often commented on the budgetary processes, comparing the North Carolina

MIRROR MORSELS

More persons, on the whole, are humbugged by believing in nothing, than by believing in something.—P. T. Barnum.

The remedy for the present threatened decay of faith is not a more stalwart creed or a more unflinching acceptance of it, but a profoundly spiritual life.—Lyman Abbott.

I profess not to know how women's hearts are wooed and won. To me they have always been matters of riddle and admiration.—Washington Irvin.

There is virtue in country houses, in gardens and orchards, in fields, streams and groves, in rustic recreations, plain manners, that neither cities nor universities enjoy.—A. B. Alcott.

I don't like to talk much with people who always agree with me. It is amusing to coquette with an echo for a little while, but one soon tries of it.—Thomas Carlyle.

General Assembly with the United States congress. The main difference is that the State Legislature considers the overall budget requests from the time it is presented until the final passage.

The United States Congress first passes an authorization for a certain amount of money and it is then considered by the Appropriations Committee and submitted to the House and later to the Senate, the weakness being that over a period of months, there no running account of the amounts having been appropriated. This to some degree has caused a confrontation between President Nixon and the Congress over the termination or impounding of certain appropriated funds, and in my opinion, has also contributed to the increase in the national debt. So, last week a Joint Study Committee on Budget Control of both the House and Senate submitted a tentative report on controls, the overall objective being to improve Congressional control over budgetary outlays and receipt totals. The detail have not been ascertained as of this moment, and it will be some months before any final action is taken, but if a workable plan can be implemented which would give the Congress a constant accounting of the total appropriations as it relates to anticipated income, then this might well be the most important thing that the 93rd Congress will do this year, and will restore to the Congress a reassertion of power and authority, and more important, direct voice in the Nation's priorities.

True Contentment depends not upon what we have; a tub was large enough for Diogenes, but a world was too little for Alexander.—Colton.

Consideration is the soil in which wisdom may be expected to grow, and strength be given to every unstringing plant of duty.—Emerson.

Keep your conduct abreast of your conscience, and very soon your conscience will be illumined by the radiance of God.—W. M. Taylor.

Common sense is, of all kins, the most uncommon. It implies good judgement, sound discretion, and true and practical wisdom applied to common life.—Tryon Edwards.

Had the doctrines of Jesus Been preached always as pure as they came from his lips, the whole civilized world would now have been Christians.—Thomas Jefferson.

In the man whose childhood has known caresses and kindness, there is always a fibre of memory that can be touched to gentle issues.—George Eliot.

Every time a man smiles, and much more when he laughs, it adds something to his fragment of life.—Sterne.

To judge Human character rightly a man may sometimes have very small experience provided he has a very large heart.—Bulwer.

A brave man is sometimes a desperado; but a bully is always a coward.—Haliburton.

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